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KENT ON SUNDAY

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IT'S WHAT SUNDAYS ARE ALL ABOUT

No. 300 June 22, 2008

INSIDE THIS WEEK'S PAPER

YOUR GUIDE TO WHAT'S ON OFFER THIS SUMMER AT Lakeside

PLUS WIN A MEAL FOR FOUR WORTH £200

SUPERBUG FREE

By JENNA PUDELEK

Hygiene campaign praised as NHS hospitals hit targets

KOS Media's hand hygiene campaign has been hailed as a major success after six community hospitals in east Kent were revealed as superbug free.

Eastern and Coastal Kent Primary Care Trust has been working with the award-winning publisher to promote the importance of hand-washing in the battle against killer infections such as MRSA and Clostridium difficile.

The PCT was named as one of the most improved NHS organisations in the country by the Healthcare Commission for meeting the Government's core standards.

Sarah Andrews, director of nursing at the PCT, said: "The campaign which KOS Media is running in conjunction with the local NHS throughout the year remains the single most important way of ensuring everyone understands their role and responsibilities in combating what can be deadly infections."

The PCT has improved by 38 per cent in the last year, meeting 32 out of the 43 targets.

Infection control is the most important standard and the organisation's top priority, a spokeswoman said, and the PCT now meets all three criteria of the hygiene code.

Kent on Sunday, the Saturday Observer and their midweek sister titles have been working to highlight the fact that washing your hands and using the alcogel available in hospitals and healthcare centres is one of the best ways to help NHS workers wipe out the killer bugs.

Mrs Andrews said: "Continuing to improve infection control across the whole of the PCT's area remains the number one priority.

"With the support of KOS Media we have been able to run a very successful infection control campaign to raise professional and public awareness of the importance of hygiene.

"The campaign has been a great way to communicate the infection control message and is helping everyone to help tackle infection."

She said the campaign, along with infection control and prevention methods, had given the PCT's community hospitals – Faversham Cottage Hospital; Victoria Hospital, Deal; Queen Victoria Memorial Hospital, Herne Bay; Sittingbourne Memorial Hospital; Whitstable and Tankerton Hospital; and Sheppey Community Hospital – an excellent track record on infection rates for superbugs.

In the last six months there have been no cases of hospital-acquired C diff at the sites and currently no infections of the diarrhoea bug or MRSA, the spokeswoman said.

Mrs Andrews said the PCT was in the top 20 per cent nationally for staff reporting that hand-cleaning methods were always available.

Rigorous cleaning methods are used in wards and cleaning gels and hand-washing facilities are available for staff, visitors and patients throughout the PCT's buildings.

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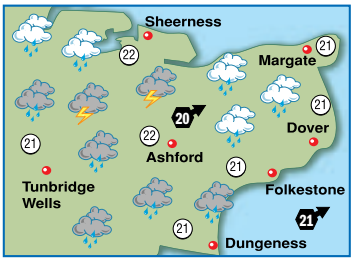
Kent today



TODAY: Cloudy with showery rain, some heavy and thundery. Drier with sunny spells later. Fresh south-westerly winds. Max temp 21-24C (70-75F).
TONIGHT: Dry with clear, moonlit skies and little patchy cloud. There will be moderate south-westerly winds. Min temp 10-13C (50-55F).

Around Britain

		°C	°F			°C	°F
Aberdeen	thunder	15	59	London	showers	19	66
Belfast	showers	20	68	Liverpool	cloudy	21	70
Birmingham	rain	16	61	Manchester	showers	19	66
B'mouth	showers	20	68	Newcastle	thunder	18	64
Bristol	fair	16	61	Norwich	thunder	23	73
Cardiff	showers	18	64	Oxford	showers	19	66
Cork	rain	15	59	Southsea	cloudy	18	64
Edinburgh	thunder	17	63	S'hampton	showers	19	66
Glasgow	rain	16	61	Southport	sun	–	–
Isle of Man	rain	15	59	Swansea	showers	17	63
Leeds	showers	18	64	Torquay	showers	17	63

Sun & moon

Sunrise	4.37am	Sunset	9.18pm	Lighting up times:
Moonrise	11.36pm	Moonset	8.07am	9.18pm to 4.37am

High Tides

	today				tomorrow			
	ht (m)		ht (m)		ht (m)		ht (m)	
Dover	01.54	6.1	14.16	6.3	02.30	6.0	14.53	6.2
Margate	02.58	4.3	14.56	4.4	03.35	4.3	15.30	4.4
St Mary's	07.42	4.9	20.01	5.2	08.19	4.9	20.40	5.1

Week ahead

monday A few showers. max 19C min 10C

tuesday Sunny spells. max 20C min 12C

wednesday Showery rain. max 23C min 13C

thursday Isolated showers. max 23C min 13C

friday Light showers. max 22C min 12C

saturday Mainly dry. max 21C min 11C

Named and shamed

By **JENNA PUDELEK**
jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

EMPLOYER	COMPANY	TOWN	WORKERS	FINE
Jian Qing Yang	Friendly 8	Beckenham	2	£10,000
Lai Ping Lee	Lee's Chinese Takeaway	Ashford	2	£15,000
Ahad Rahman	Raj Pavilion	Tunbridge Wells	1	£5,000
Mazamil Ali	Mumtaz Mahul Tandoori Restaurant	Cranbrook	1	£5,000
Abrus Ali	Taj of Kent	Tonbridge	2	£10,000

Employers of illegal migrant workers put in the spotlight

FIVE Kent restaurants have been named and shamed in the Government's latest crackdown on immigration crime for employing illegal migrant workers.

They have been fined a total of £45,000 as part of the Home Office and the UK Border Agency's new strategy to tackle people smuggling.

Damian Green, the shadow minister for immigration, said publicising the names of companies hiring people without the right to work here was a "gimmick" and renewed calls for an integrated border police force.

The Kent companies listed on the agency's website are among 35 named nationally and fined a total of £303,000 in May.

Mr Green, the MP for Ashford, said: "I think taking action against people who employ illegal immigrants is a good idea. Putting their names on a website is a bit of a gimmick. They will stop doing it if they worry about being caught and fined, that is the deterrent."

Almost half of the restaurants, which have been fined up to £10,000 per worker, listed on the agency's website for London and the South East are in Kent.

"I would be amazed if there was a bigger problem than in London, it is more likely they have gone for the softer targets," Mr Green said.

Naming and shaming companies who break migrant workers rules each month is part of a shake-up of the agency's work and local immigration teams have been introduced to tackle each community's specific needs, the Government said.

At the launch of the new strategy on Thursday, Home Secretary Jacqui Smith said: "When newcomers come here they enter into a deal with the UK – to work hard, play by the rules and earn their right to stay."

Plans include deporting 5,000 foreign national prisoners by the end of the year and fingerprinting people coming into the country from outside the EU for ID cards from November to identify those breaking the rules.

Mr Green said: "I think they are missing the main solution which would be to have an integrated border police force, which would be police-led and have police powers.

"At the moment it is a mixture of immigration officers, customs officers and police. Operating would be simpler and cleaner if we have one organisation to both protect our borders and close illegal employers."

He added: "Until we have a border police force they (the Government) will always be one step behind the problem."

Since February fines for employing illegal workers have totalled £2.35 million.

Kent Police told KoS the force was not commenting on the strategy at this time. None of the employers named were available for comment at time of going to press.

News and sport updated daily online
www.kentnews.co.uk

'Superbug' NHS Trust vows to meet hygiene standards before deadline

A HOSPITAL trust in west Kent has been given a "wake-up call" to meet hygiene regulations or face losing its licence to treat patients, the health watchdog has revealed.

All trusts and other NHS organisations across the country carried out self-assessments of whether they met 24 core standards and the results were published this week by the Healthcare Commission.

Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust, which was at the centre of a superbug scandal that led to the deaths of 90 patients from Clostridium difficile, was one of only two trusts in the country not to have improved its score on last year's results after being rated 'weak' for quality of services.

The trust, which was one of 41 nationally that failed to meet hygiene regulations, said its performance had improved greatly since it took part in the "critical" annual health check declaration in the wake of the watchdog's report into the C diff outbreaks.

Glenn Douglas, the trust's chief executive, told Kent on Sunday: "Our wards are clean and patients are better protected against avoidable infections. Two years ago the trust's rates of C difficile were among the worst in the country – today they are among the best."

However, the trust has only 10 months before a tougher regulatory regime under the Care Quality Commission comes into force.

Watchdog

In April, NHS trusts will have to pass a hygiene test before they can register to treat patients with the new regulator and the Government has warned that non-compliant trusts could face closure.

Mr Douglas was confident the trust could clean-up its act ahead of the deadline, he said: "The Care Quality Commission is being formed to ensure better outcomes for patients nationwide. We will be working hard throughout the year to ensure we comply or go far beyond the standards they set."

The health watchdog's inspectors will now visit each trust in the country, carrying out spot-checks and match their findings with the trusts' declarations, which will be published in October.

Anna Walker, the commission's chief executive, said: "By April 2009, all NHS hospitals will have to abide by all elements of the hygiene code. These self-declarations show trusts don't think they are there yet. We will give them all the help we can, but this is a wake-up call."

There are three elements to the hygiene code, which include infection control, decontamination of equipment and healthcare environment and hygiene.

The trust, which is responsible for Maidstone, the Kent and Sussex and Pembury hospitals, failed to meet the third requirement, but only because it had failed to properly document their hygiene improvements, Mr Douglas said.

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at VILLAGE Maidstone

Vexed villagers' showdown over recycling plant

CAMPAIGNERS battling against plans for a recycling plant in Sellindge will come face-to-face with county council planners next week at a public meeting.

Kent County Council officials will attend the meeting at Sellindge Village Hall on June 24 to hear first-hand opinion regarding a proposed anaerobic recycling plant on the outskirts of the village.

Anaerobic digesting plants are seen as a greener alternative to landfill. The process involves waste being broken down to create a peat-like material that is then spread onto agricultural land.

But plans for the plant, which will be one of the largest in the UK if built, has caused controversy around the area.

Campaigners from the Sellindge and District Residents' Association say the plant will create hundreds of lorry journeys through the village, create foul smells and attract rats and flies.

They also say the 40ft-high silos that would be built on the former Otterpool Quarry site, opposite the Airport Café, are out of scale for the rural location.

Ronald Lello, from the campaigning group, said: "If the KCC approve the proposal it will disastrously affect our quality of life, health and the value of our homes."

The meeting will begin at 7pm at the hall on the A20.

Bob campaigns for Tory Davis

A LABOUR MP has put himself on a collision course with the Prime Minister after promising to campaign for Tory David Davis.

Medway MP Bob Marshall-Andrews was the only Kent Labour MP to vote against the Government during the 42-day terror detention debate.

But now he has promised to campaign for the former Tory shadow home secretary who forced a by-election in his Haltemprice and Howden constituency over the issue of civil liberties.

Mr Marshall-Andrews told The Observer: "They can't muzzle the whole of the party and it seems to me foolish in the extreme in the present climate to start describing civil liberties as a stunt."

Mr Marshall-Andrews – who is standing down at the next election – faces losing the party whip for campaigning in support of another political party.

• *See Opinion, p32.*

A PATIENT died after falling from a window at Kent and Canterbury Hospital.

The 35-year-old man suffered severe injuries when he plummeted from the building at 9am on Monday.

Police were called to the hospital and officers have spoken to witnesses. The death is not being treated as suspicious.

A report will be prepared for the coroner.

Nazaneen is here to brighten up our day

By **CHRIS MURPHY**
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New girl happy to bring a bit of glamour to our telly's weather

Picture: BBC SOUTH EAST

THE BBC's stunning new South East weathergirl, who starts work tomorrow, says she is happy to bring glamour the screen.

Nazaneen Ghaffar was born in Tunbridge Wells and says she is delighted to be back "home".

The 23-year-old had been working as a weather presenter for ITV West in Bristol, but she is also well known on a website called Current Buns.

She has two pages of screenshots dedicated to her, with meticulous care taken to show off her voluptuous figure.

But Nazaneen said: "Yes, I have seen that website, my brother found it and showed it to me. Lots of women who are on the news and current affairs programmes are on there, it's not just me.

"It's completely harmless – it's shots of me on TV which people see anyway. I don't see any problem with it at all. If people are fascinated then so be it."

When it was pointed out to Nazaneen that weathergirls have been getting more and more glamorous since the days of Ulrika Jonsson, she said: "I certainly don't feel any pressure to be like Ulrika Jonsson because I am not that sort of person."

Sex symbol

Breaking away from a gruelling all-day training session, she said: "Why not have a bit of glamour like that on the television to a certain standard."

Her grounding in life has always been in Kent.

She said: "I have lived and trained in Tunbridge Wells forever, apart from the last couple of years when I was on ITV West in Bristol. It's nice to be back and I live in Tunbridge Wells now."

The presenter said she is definitely not after Kaddy Lee Preston's job, the current weather presenter on South East Today, also known as a bit of a sex symbol among male viewers.

Nazaneen said: "She is still the main weather presenter and I have come along to help out really. I am definitely not a rival for the top job – Kaddy is the main one.

"The BBC is focusing more on the weather now. I have been brought along to help provide the weather on more platforms like covering live on radio, covering live on television and helping with the website."

Nazaneen went to St James Primary School before going to Tunbridge Wells Grammar School for Girls. After completing her A-levels Nazaneen joined the broadcasting degree course at Ravensbourne College in Chislehurst to help her fulfil her childhood dreams of becoming a television presenter.

She said: "It really is a dream come true – getting to do my dream job and in my home town.

"When I was 11 I went on the BBC Experience Tour at Television Centre and they gave you the chance to present the weather. It was then I decided that was what I wanted to do. From then on I started to drive my family mad, I even used to make my dad turn the sound off on the television news so I could practice by reading the subtitles to him."

She admitted her rise to presenting has been "a bit of a Cinderella tale".

She added: "When I left college I worked as a runner for Endemol on Deal or No Deal and then saw a librarian job at ITV West. I became media co-ordinator until one day, out of the blue, the head of news called me in and asked if I'd like to give presenting a try.

"I loved working in Bristol, but when the BBC South East Today job came up I thought it was too good an opportunity to let pass by."

BBC South East Today editor Quentin Smith said: "We are delighted to have Nazaneen on board. She is a bright, engaging presenter and will be a real asset to the team. I am sure viewers will take her to their hearts."

Gills sponsor remains committed to club despite talk of cash cutbacks

GILLINGHAM Football Club will be hit in the pocket after local sponsor Kent Reliance Building Society said it was cutting its cash help next season.

The Chatham-based society – which has 13 branches from Gravesend to Minster and Sevenoaks to Canterbury – is reducing the level of its sponsorship because of Gills' relegation to League Two.

But a club spokesman at Priestfield remained upbeat after the news.

He said: "Gillingham Football Club does not discuss contractual arrangements with any of the club's sponsors externally.

"We enjoy a fantastic relationship with KRBS and together we are looking forward to the new season."

Under last season's three-year agreement the society agreed to give money to the club in return for the right to have the krbs.com logo on players' shirts and the home ground being renamed krbs Priestfield Stadium.

Neither side would say what the base amount was for the first year.

However, the whole deal depended on how well the club did, with the amount increasing if they were successful and a reduction if they faired badly.

Kent Reliance's chief executive Mike Lazenby said the society remained committed to the club. But because Gills was demoted the society was renegotiating to pay less.

Both sides confirmed talks were going ahead, and a society spokeswoman said they should be concluded "fairly shortly".

• *For more on Gills see the sports section.*

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Officer is thought to be most senior Armed Forces casualty in Afghanistan

Colonel injured in Helmand firefight

By JAMIE McGINNES
jamie.mcginnes@kosmedia.co.uk

THE commanding officer of a Kent-based battalion has been flown back to the UK for hospital treatment after being shot in Afghanistan.

Lieutenant-Colonel David Richmond, 41, of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders, the 5th Battalion the Royal Regiment of Scotland, was hit in the leg near the town of Musa Qala in the volatile Helmand Province.

It has emerged he was wounded on June 12 – in the same week five paratroopers were killed in Helmand.

After being airlifted from the battlefield by helicopter to the main British base, Camp Bastion, he is understood to have returned to the UK to receive specialist treatment at Selly Oak Hospital in Birmingham.

He is thought to be the highest-ranking British casualty since the war began in Afghanistan in 2001.

Speaking just after the shooting, Major Adam Fairrie, of the Argylls, who are based at Howe Barracks, Canterbury, said: "The commanding officer has received the best medical care after sustaining a gunshot wound.

"He will return to Selly Oak in due course. His thoughts are much with the families of the members of the Parachute Regiment who died in other incidents… and with his battalion, who, along with all the coalition, are continuing to make progress in Afghanistan."

It has been reported Lt Col Richmond was wounded during a firefight near the Argylls' Forward Operating Base Edinburgh. His injuries are not life threatening and he is expected to make a full recovery.

Four British soldiers were killed in Helmand on Tuesday, bringing the total number of UK troops who have died in Afghanistan since 2001 to 106. Another 400 have been wounded.

In Parliament on Monday, Defence Secretary Des Browne said that the security situation in Afghanistan was "stable, if fragile" in an answer to a question from Adam Holloway, Tory MP for Gravesham.

On the same day Mr Browne announced that the total number of British personnel in the country would increase by 230 to more than 8,000 by next spring.

Mr Holloway said the war against the Taliban has become unwinnable.

Around 550 troops from the Argylls, with an average age of 21 or 22, were sent to Afghanistan in March.

Speaking before the deployment, Lt Col Richmond said their mission was to "disrupt" the Taliban, rather than beat them outright.

Picture: PHIL HOUGHTON

WOUNDED: Lt Col David Richmond was shot in the leg whilst fighting in Musa Qala

"It is about making progress," he said. "It's not about body bags. It's about improving the lot for people who have to live there."

But the officer admitted that the Argylls were likely to face a resurgent enemy during their tour because the bitterly cold winter period was over.

"It's a dangerous place," he said at the time. "If it wasn't dangerous you wouldn't send the Army."

According to his Army biography, Lt Col Richmond has been married to Alison for nearly 16 years and has two daughters, Jenna and Clara, as well as a cat and four chickens.

He was commissioned into the Army in December, 1986, and has served in places including Iraq, Northern Ireland and Bosnia. He took command of the Argylls in January, 2007.

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DANGERS: A soldier keeps an eye out for Taliban and another checks for landmines

Argylls facing 'complex' task in battle to beat the Taliban

SOLDIERS from the Argylls have been "taking the fight to the Taliban", the Army said this week.

The Canterbury-based battalion is in Helmand Province, working alongside troops from some of the 39 countries that make up the International Stabilization Force.

Captain Stevie Rae, 39, from Alexandria, described the men's surroundings.

He said: "All around and as far as the eye can see are buildings that have been ravaged after decades of fighting. Nothing is left that has not been affected by the violence."

Capt Rae added: "The Taliban are close by and all the Jocks are alert for any indication of them closing in. Firefights are common, but A Company Jocks are an aggressive team and take the fight to the insurgents whenever they can.

"The world these soldiers live in is alien to anyone who has never served in a FOB [Forward Operating Base]. It is complex, dangerous and you have to rise to the challenges every day."

Deciding what to take out on patrol is vital, said Capt Rae.

"As you prepare to go on patrol only essential equipment is carried. The rule is if you can't shoot it, drink it, or eat it then don't carry it."

When the sun goes down, the Taliban try and move around in cover of darkness, but the Argylls say they have the advantage with night vision goggles. Corporal Lacky MacNeil, 31, from Glasgow, said: "The advantage is ours when the sun goes down, as we have night viewing capability to track any movement which is around us."

Private Joe Connelly, from Dumbarton, said: "We have been attacked by RPGs (rocket-propelled grenades) and small arms. The first time it is nerve racking, but you soon learn to get on with it and react more aggressively than the enemy.

"They don't like our firepower and, more importantly, they don't like how accurately we return fire."

The Argylls return from Afghanistan in October.

Reel reward for movie nut

A FILM fan from Kent has been showered with special gifts after becoming the 1,000th member of a cinema club.

The Gulbenkian Cinema in Canterbury presented Kate Griffin, who lives in Ash near the city, with a bottle of champagne to mark her joining the 999 other movie-lovers.

She was also given two free tickets for The Edge of Love, which is about the wartime love life of the Welsh poet Dylan Thomas.

Dee Ashworth, the cinema's director, said: "We have a reputation in Kent and the South East for showing the best selection of films at the most affordable prices."

Members of the club receive a discount on tickets as well as invites to free screenings and special events.

It was launched last September after the independent cinema was re-opened after a major refurbishment thanks to a grant from the UK Film Council.

• ***To join the club, which costs £10 a year, or for more information, call the Gulbenkian booking office on 01227 769075 or visit www.gulbenkiantheatre.co.uk.***

'A band this influential in modern day music does not come along this often'

Legendary rockers ready to 'blow straw from your ears'

AMERICAN 1970s rock legends the New York Dolls have been named as the Saturday night headline band for a rock festival being staged at a farm, ***writes Mick Watkins***.

The third Lounge on the Farm, on July 11-13, is at Merton Farm in Canterbury, which will play host to 160 bands across six stages with suitably rural names including the Cow Shed, the Hoedown and the Sheep Dip.

Other big names on the bill include Medway's Billy Childish, The Coral, The Bees, Lightspeed Champion and Black Kids.

Former Specials singer Terry Hall and Dexys Midnight Runners frontman Kevin Rowland will both be playing DJ sets.

The New York Dolls formed in 1971 and released two albums, neither of which sold well, but went on to be hugely influential on the American and British punk scenes later in the decade.

The band had not played together for more than 20 years when the surviving members reformed in 2004 for two concerts in London at a festival curated by former Smiths singer Morrissey.

Since then singer David Johansen and guitarist Sylvain Sylvain have put a new version of the band together and recorded a new album.

The Lounge on the Farm organisers said: "We are beyond ecstatic to announce our headliners, the incomparable New York Dolls. When it comes to legends the New York Dolls are up there with the best of them, singlehandedly forging a sound across two albums released in the early 70s that became the benchmark for what was soon to become known as punk music.

"Words cannot describe how happy we are. Famed for their extravagant and raucous performances, David Johansen, Sylvain Sylvain and crew are set to plough through the old classics like Trash and Jet Boy, as well as new material from their recent One Day It Will Please Us to Remember Even This album, which is sure to blow the straw from your ears. A band so influential in modern day music does not come along this often."

The festival is on a working farm and all the food sold over the weekend comes from within a 20-mile radius of the site.

Weekend tickets for the event are £85 per adult including camping, with day tickets costing £35. Discounts are available for children and families. More information at www.loungeonthefarm.co.uk.

DOWN ON THE FARM: Punk rock's New York Dolls who will headline Lounge on the Farm

Car share will save festival-goers money

FESTIVAL fans will be able to save money by heading to this year's Zoo Thousand and Eight together.

Free parking is on offer to vehicles shared between three or more people at the event, which is taking place at Port Lympne Wild Animal Park from Friday to Sunday, July 4-6.

The £10 per car saving can be made at the newly acquired additional car park in Otterpool Lane, Lympne.

A five-minute walk from the Zoo Thousand gates, parking at the new facility will ensure congestion around the festival site is kept to a minimum as demand for tickets continues to grow, said organisers. The high-security compound will be staffed by trained security guards around the clock and car owners will have 24-hour access to their vehicles.

Matt Dice, Zoo Thousand director, said: "The new car park site will mean that we have adequate space for everyone who wants to drive – but we would ask anyone thinking of getting here by car to share a lift with their friends – not only is it a way of doing your bit for the environment, you can also save yourself a few quid for an extra beer or burger."

For those travelling to the three-day event by other forms of transport, organisers said Westernhanger is the nearest train station, with Ashford International also close-by in a 20-minute taxi journey. A shuttle bus service will be operating from both stations through the weekend.

Eventz Travel is operating a pre-booked coach service from across Kent and the UK with drop-offs at the festival site. For more information and bookings see www.eventz-travel.co.uk or call 07779 23 28 54.

Mr Dice added: "Everyone should check www.zoothousand.com in the build-up to the festival for up-to-the-minute information."

Events used in campaign to get visitors

TOURISM chiefs are planning to use the growing number of arts and music festivals to lure more visitors to the county's coastline.

With grants from Arts Council England South East and Kent County Council, leaflets promoting all the arts events along the coastline from Whitstable to Dungeness this season are being distributed throughout London.

Details of the campaign are also featured on the Visit Kent website.

The campaign promotes the county's beautiful coastline and its many natural attractions alongside cutting-edge visual arts events and exhibitions including the Folkestone Triennial, Whitstable Biennale and Turner Contemporary.

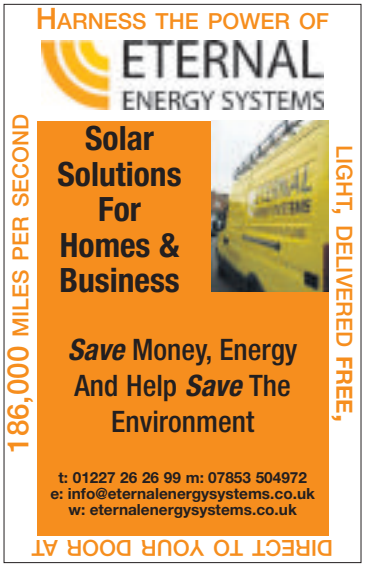
The county's music scene is highlighted with the Margate Big Sky Jazz Festival, Broadstairs Folk Week, Whitstable Brewery Bar and the Deal Festival of music and arts.

Festivals of all kinds are celebrated including Whitstable Oyster Festival, Margate's Open Sky Kite Festival and the Canterbury International Arts Festival.

Sally Staples, head of Kent Arts development unit, said: "Launching this campaign focuses on the coastal towns of Kent attracting and harnessing the energies of creative people, businesses and visitors."

Fran Warrington, head of Visit Kent at KCC, added: "Kent is now an increasingly important destination nationally and internationally for the arts and cultural tourism.

For further information about the Kent Culture Coast campaign, events, attractions and places to stay in the county go to www.visitkent.co.uk/events.



Afghan children fleeing warzone

By JAMIE McGINNES
jamie.mcginnes@kosmedia.co.uk

A CHARITY that supports refugees and asylum seekers has revealed that it is now dealing with more Afghans than any other nationality.

Migrant Helpline, which gives advice and help to newly arrived immigrants at Dover, said Afghanistan, rather than Iran last year, was now the main country of origin.

However, Roy Millard, deputy chief executive of Migrant Helpline, told KOS Media the number of Afghan families and adults it handled in 2007-08 was down to just under 400 from nearly 1,000 in 2006-07.

Figures released by Kent County Council show it picked up 265 Afghan children found being smuggled through Dover between April 2007 and March 2008 – an increase of 55 per cent on the previous year.

It is thought some are fleeing their war-torn homeland because of the pressure to become suicide bombers.

Mr Millard said that as countries such as Afghanistan became more dangerous, families were increasingly willing to send their children away.

"It's a way of parents protecting their children," he said. "It reflects the lengths families will go to make their children safe. It's a desperate, desperate decision. They may not see them again, but at least they know they have tried to make them safe."

DESPERATE: Afghan families are willing to send their children away for their safety

He said Afghan refugees were subjected to awful conditions in the backs of lorries on their way to Britain and they often had no idea where they were heading.

"It's a terribly arduous journey," he said. "If they've been smuggled in the back of a lorry, it's largely just in the clothes they set out in. They've been confined for days, probably weeks or months.

"They're disorientated, they don't know what's happening, sometimes they don't know what country they're in. They're in dire need of the most basic essentials."

Their epic journey from Afghanistan would typically involve travelling through Pakistan to Turkey, on to Greece, through the Balkans, then across Italy, Austria and Belgium before reaching France and then England.

Migrant Helpline provided initial accommodation services in 6,796 cases in Kent and London in 2006-07, which fell to 2,659 in 2007-08. Of the Afghan children discovered being smuggled into Kent, one in five goes missing after being taken into care.

A total of 525 asylum-seeking children was taken into care in Kent between July 2007 and March 2008. That is three times the rate of arrival during the previous three years.

Peter Gilroy, KCC's chief executive, said: "You can guarantee that when the numbers of Afghan children arriving here go up, it is to do with an escalation in hostilities."

• Refugee Week has been running since Monday to raise awareness of those fleeing persecution in their home countries. It is also a celebration of the contribution refugees have made to the arts, culture, economy and society, as well as Britain's history of tolerance in welcoming them.

How many moths can you spot?

THE great garden moth count is here – with people being asked to log all the types they see.

The event runs from this weekend until next Sunday, July 6, and to take part simply tell the website www.mothscount.org which ones you find in your garden.

There are about 2,500 species of moth in the UK, and they are an often overlooked part of garden wildlife though they are often bright, patterned and beautiful creatures and are vital for feeding birds and pollinating plants.

Oast's garden of delights

A THERAPEUTIC garden – which includes a tepee and a football pitch – for teenagers with mental health problems has opened in Maidstone.

It is at Fant Oast, on the outskirts of the county town, the only NHS inpatient facility for people aged between 12 and 17 who are suffering from mental illness.

The idea of improving the garden was raised in 2006 when Fant Oast staff were invited to take part in an initiative called Enhancing The Healing Environment by health charity the Kings Fund, which donated money for the redesign.

Award-winning Lucy Huntington Garden Designs then worked with patients at the unit to come up with ideas for a garden that would allow residents to relax, play and provide a homely environment.

Patients can spend up to six months at the unit, which is run by the Kent and Medway NHS and Social Care Partnership Trust.

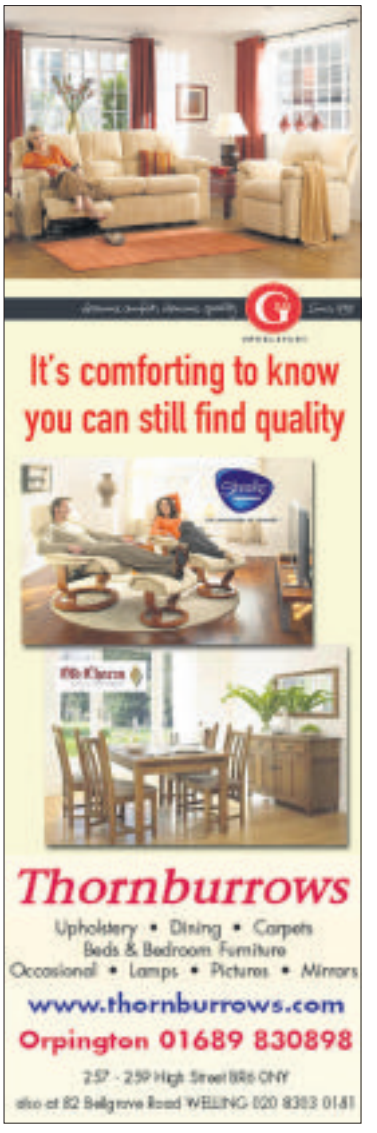
The new garden has a mini playground, a football pitch, water features and herb gardens, plus a pets' corner to encourage residents to be affectionate and responsible in preparation for their leaving the unit.

But the most impressive part of the design is a 10ft tepee that provides a quiet area and can be used for outdoor therapy sessions.

Fant Oast manager John Rea thanked volunteers who helped to dig up the old garden, and the the Hillreed Foundation, which worked on the site.

"Most important, however, is the need to thank the residents of Fant Oast," he said.

"Without their contribution at every stage of the redesign the garden could not have been completed to such a high standard."



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Kent musician nominated for two 'mini Grammys'

KRIS Searle is living the American dream after earning two nominations in the Los Angeles Music Awards.

The singer/songwriter from Herne Bay headed to Hollywood earlier this year to pursue his dream of a music career.

Now the talented 27-year-old could pick up awards for Best Male Vocal Performance and Record of the Year for his debut album Slowly Diabolical.

The results will be announced at the award ceremony – dubbed 'the mini Grammys' – in Los Angeles later this year.

Speaking exclusively to KOS Media, Mr Searle revealed he could not stop shaking when he heard the news.

"I went to the LAMA's last year and standing at the back of the theatre, I imagined myself up there," he said. "I remember thinking 'it's going to happen' over the last year, but I never imagined I would be nominated for these particular awards. Just to be nominated is an honour – to be put into two categories is way beyond my dreams."

"After I got the call, I called mum back home and I couldn't stop shaking," he said.

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Minister meets war vets over Gulf illness

By **JAMIE McGINNES**
Additional reporting Chris Murphy

GULF War veterans who blame a variety of illnesses on their involvement in the 1990-91 conflict have put their case to a government minister.

Noel Baker, 42, from Rainham, was among 20 former soldiers with Gulf War Syndrome (GWS) that attended the parliamentary reception.

Mr Baker believes he became ill as a result of experimental vaccines he was injected with and exposure to deadly gases when Saddam Hussein's arms depots were blown up.

Since serving as a corporal in the Queen's Royal Lancers in Iraq, he has suffered from multiple sclerosis, a cyst in his spleen and episodes of skin cancer.

Tuesday's event was organised by the Royal British Legion.

Presentations were made by people including Professor Jack Melling, who used to work at Porton Down military research facility, psychiatrist Professor Simon Wesley, who is investigating GWS, veterans minister Derek Twigg and Lord Lloyd of Berwick, a former law lord.

Sue Freeth, director of welfare at the Royal British Legion, said: "Lord Lloyd of Berwick reiterated the case for an additional payment for veterans for the treatment they had received at the hands of the UK Government.

WAITING: Gulf veteran Noel Baker

"The minister repeated an earlier apology from the Government, for the poor way in which the issue had been dealt with by successive governments. He also outlined the recent extension of priority NHS treatment for all veterans and said the Government had not ruled out the possibility of future research into the cause of Gulf War illness."

Mr Baker, who is Kent co-ordinator of the National Gulf War Veterans and Families Association, said the meeting went well, but there was still a long way to go.

"The minister wasn't just knocking down all the arguments and was actually listening," he said.

"But, of course, listening and actually doing something is very different. I am not that confident anything will actually change."

Paul Clark, Labour MP for Gillingham, also attended. said: "The medical community remains unclear about the possible health effects of certain combination vaccinations."

A spokesman for the Ministry of Defence said: "A Pensions Appeal Tribunal has ruled that GWS was a 'useful umbrella term' to cover accepted conditions causally linked to the 1990/1991 Gulf conflict.

"We welcomed this development and hope this will help bring closure to the issue. Letters have been sent to those Gulf veterans who claimed GWS for a war pension explaining how this term can now be used as an umbrella term."

However, Mr Baker said the Government still did not actually believe in the existence of GWS and claimed it was extremely difficult for former soldiers to prove the 'umbrella term' applied to them.

Kent firms to go for gold

By **TONY PATEY**
tony.patey@kosmedia.co.uk

DON'T let gold, silver or even bronze opportunities slip away, Kent businesses are being told.

If firms want to get a foot in the door for contracts for the 2012 Olympics, get in the starting blocks for a high-octane workshop being run by Business Link.

It is offering small and medium-sized businesses – SMEs – the chance to get information that will help them gain a Quality Management statement.

This will qualify them to enter the online bidding for contract opportunities throughout Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

The UK's 4.5 million small businesses are able to bid online for contracts posted on the Government-supported CompeteFor site at www.london2012.com/business.

This gives them access to opportunities linked to the London 2012 Games, with contracts and sub-contracts for infrastructure, buildings and the organisation of the event, it is estimated to be potentially worth £9 billion to British business.

Demonstrate

Being registered on CompeteFor also allows firms to network and form consortiums to bid for larger contracts.

Small companies are already the biggest winners among the £2 billion of 2012-related contracts awarded so far, according to figures from the Olympic Delivery Authority.

Of the 650 companies that have already won contracts, more than 70 per cent are SMEs and 98 per cent are UK based. There are 18,000 firms registered on CompeteFor, of which nearly 90 per cent are SMEs.

In addition to a Quality Management statement, businesses will also need to demonstrate that they have health and safety and equal opportunities policies. These three criteria will also be useful to businesses wishing to bid for public sector contracts of up to £100,000 on www.supply2.gov.uk.

Business Link's Paul Toben, who is programme manager for the London 2012 Games, said: "Hundreds of Kent businesses could be losing out because they haven't got the required policies or processes in place."

The workshop is on Wednesday, July 30, at Kent Science Park, Sittingbourne. To book, visit www.eventskent.co.uk/2012 or call 01732 878555.

Berna lands dream Beijing job

A UNIVERSITY student has landed a dream role at this year's Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Berna Ucel, who is studying for a degree in creative events, design and production, at the University of Kent's Medway campus, will be flying to Beijing this summer to work alongside members of the London Organising Committee of the Olympic Games (Locog).

She will be helping to produce and stage-manage a handover ceremony at the end of this year's Games, where the Olympic flag will be passed from the mayor of the Chinese capital to the Mayor of London, Boris Johnson.

Billed as a theatrical spectacle which will invite the world to London for the 2012 Games, the ceremony will be watched by tens of thousands of spectators in Beijing and will be screened to an estimated 1.5 billion people around the globe.

Led by Lord Sebastian Coe, Locog is responsible for staging the 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games in London.

Berna, who is in the second year of her studies, was offered the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity after Locog decided to recruit a student helper to join its team.

The organisation approached the University of Kent's creative events degree programme, where students learn how to produce high-profile events and spectacles.

After a series of interviews with more than a dozen Kent students, Berna was selected.

The 24-year-old said: "I've loved the creative events course, but it is beyond my wildest dreams to be able to work on one of the biggest shows in the world.

"The handover ceremony is the moment Britain starts its countdown to staging the Olympic Games, so I'm sure we're going to be producing a spectacle that's vivid, memorable and historic."

Berna, who worked with fellow students in producing a giant puppet spectacle for Medway's Fuse Festival, will be joining a Locog team of just five others in Beijing.

They will be under pressure for weeks to create and ensure the smooth running of an eight-minute ceremony to mark the close of the Games.

CREATIVE: Berna Ucel

Charity pours cold water on PC idea of using 'thought showers'

COUNCIL bosses have backtracked on banning the term 'brainstorming' and replacing it with 'thought showers'.

Tunbridge Wells Borough Council came up with the idea to scrap the popular term – describing a group generating a lot of ideas quickly – during an equality and diversity meeting fearing it could offend people with epilepsy or mental illness.

But national charities representing those the council believed could be offended said it was taking political correctness too far.

The National Society for Epilepsy said people with the condition were not so sensitive that anything with the word 'brain' in it caused offence and said alternatives such as 'thought shower' or 'blue sky thinking' were ambiguous.

SANE, a mental health charity, said although the authority's intentions came from the right place banning such words goes too far, saying few people would be genuinely offended by its use in the context of council meetings.

A spokeswoman for the council said staff would not be discouraged from using the term from now on.

Val Green, HR manager at Tunbridge Wells Borough Council, said: "We take equality and diversity issues very seriously.

"It is important to us not to offend people and we're sorry if through trying to avoid this we have indeed caused offence to the very people we were trying not to offend.

"We always strive to do the right thing."

She said if anyone did find the term offensive they should get in touch with the council.

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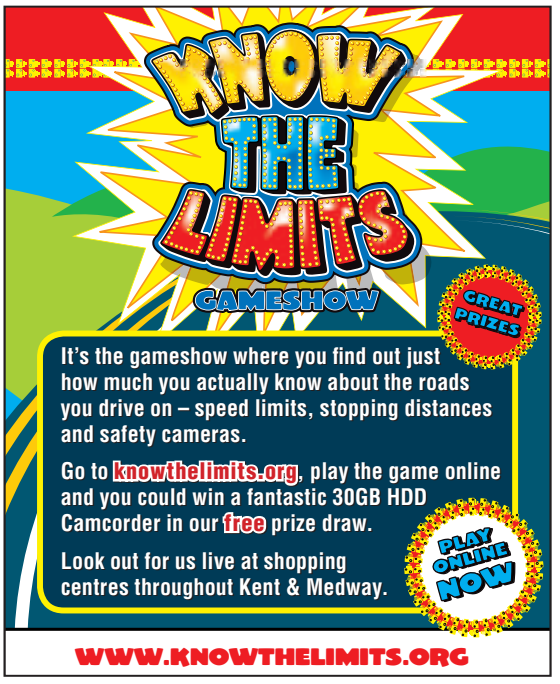


LIKE it or loathe it, the smoking ban in pubs – a year old on July 1 – has changed our drinking habits and been a mixed blessing for publicans, ***writes Tony Patey***.

If a pub has a good blend of 'wet' trade and food business, the licensee will probably say the ban has not had too much effect. Gastro-pubs, no problem.

If the pub is purely wet and doesn't have a kitchen, no parking and no spare outside space for smokers, then the publican is probably sweating. Even so, it depends on the location. Some town centre pubs which are straight boozers are still busy because they put on live entertainment, have good TV screens and pull good pints.

The British Beer and Pub Association says pubs are closing at a rate of nearly four a day because of poor sales and the smoking ban. But if they were already struggling with spiralling costs and falling sales because of drinking at home, the ban was probably the final straw.

At Faversham brewer Shepherd Neame, an official said: "Although we have had closures in the last year, none can be attributed to the smoking ban and compared with previous years there is no obvious increase."

One publican, who asked to remain anonymous, said: "I actually banned smoking in my pub three years ago and to start with enjoyed excellent takings. But since July 1, 2007, takings have suffered. My customers can now drink in their nearest pub as they are all smoke-free."

Shepherd Neame took a positive approach to the smoking ban, investing more than £3 million in external facilities at its 380-strong pub estate. It says the ban has attracted new talent into the industry, now that licensees will be working and living in a smoke-free environment.

Big factor

Louise Neary, who last year became tenant of The Chequers at Doddington, decided to take the plunge because of the ban. Neither she nor partner Shaun Wheelen smoke, although both have worked in pubs.

She said: "The smoking ban was the big factor in taking on our own pub. It's one thing working in a pub and going home, but I could not have lived with it 24/7, with smoke drifting into the living areas."

Mark Copestake, licensee of the White Hart, Canterbury, said: "We have done very well and have increased our beer sales over the last year.

"We were forward-thinking and started planning even before the White Paper was published. We had umbrellas up a year before the ban came in."

The Gardeners Arms in Higham was given a £35,000 garden refurbishment by Sheps in October, creating a walled, two-tiered garden, making use of a small, previously unused area.

Licensee Frank Mead said: "Our new garden is an eye-catching retreat for smokers, non-smokers and children alike, and makes great use of a previously unused area. We've seen a definite rise in trade as a result."

Jenny Griffiths runs the George Inn in Leeds village. Together with husband Geoff she has worked in the pub industry for 25 years.

She said: "We're positive about the smoking ban and that's rubbed off on customers. They've been very accepting of it and the business is growing. We've made it clear from the start that the pub will continue to be a place where everyone can have a pint and a good time."

The pub has a 'smoke-easy' outside, a covered area with heaters that seats about 20 and can be used for drinking, dining and smoking, whatever the weather.

Let's kick this deadly habit

Ad man TIM GARBUTT used to persuade us to buy cigarettes, now he wishes fewer of us smoked

IT IS a year since the smoking ban was introduced in the UK and almost all of Europe has banned smoking from public places.

I once advertised cigarettes. Gitanes and Gauloises. I wish I hadn't. Big mistake. When consumed as indicated by the manufacturer, tobacco kills half its regular users. And smoking is the principal avoidable cause of premature deaths.

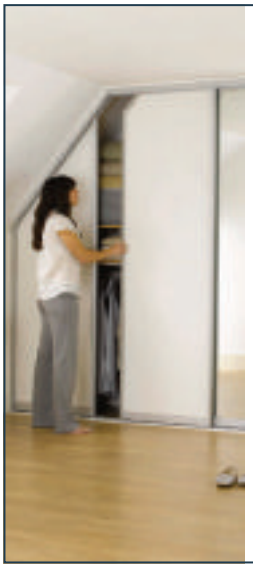
More than 106,000 deaths in the UK are caused by smoking every year (87,000 in England). More than nine million adults in England still smoke. Smoking rates in England fell from 28 to 22 per cent between 1998 and 2006. That's 1.6 million fewer smokers. These are the lowest rates on record.

An estimated 4.9 million people die annually as a result of tobacco-related diseases. Astonishingly, tobacco is responsible for the deaths of one in 10 adults worldwide. Here in Kent there's more we should be doing. Until recently KCC was still investing public funds in tobacco shares. This seems almost wilfully foolish. It is estimated that there are 1.3 billion smokers in the world. Of those, 84 per cent live in developing and 'transitional economy' countries. That means Africa, essentially.

Surely there are opportunities for KCC International and the Kent Brussels Office to promote anti-smoking initiatives and best practice governance into Africa?

Malawi, for example, receives more than 70 per cent of its hard currency earnings from tobacco. Greater support for agricultural diversity would help ensure maintained earnings plus a growth economy which doesn't rely on tobacco.

• ***Tim Garbutt is MD of Integrity Agency, a green and ethical marketing agency in Canterbury: www.integrityagency.eu.***



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Remembering the NHS at 60

Tell us your stories as the much-loved service reaches landmark anniversary

By GARY WRIGHT
gary.wright@kosmedia.co.uk

THE National Health Service celebrates its 60th birthday next month – an anniversary marking the greatest revolution in healthcare in the world.

And to mark the occasion, we want to hear from anyone who shares their birthday with the much-admired service.

So, if you were born between July 5, 1948 – the day the NHS was created – and December 31 of the same year, we want to hear from you.

Tell us your story of a lifetime under the umbrella of a state-run health system, which was the envy of the world when it was unveiled.

We want you to share the highs and lows of the NHS experience, through its good times and tough times.

It might be the birth of your own children and grandchildren, or tales of life-saving operations and caring nurses who really did make a difference to your life or your loved ones.

The NHS was introduced by Clement Attlee's Labour government in the aftermath of World War Two as part of a cradle-to-grave welfare state to protect the whole population.

Before the war, healthcare in Britain had been a patchwork of local and municipal groups and charities. The thinking behind the NHS was that each person would receive the same level of healthcare, although private schemes were allowed to continue and exist to this day.

However, less than 10 per cent of the public has private healthcare and much of that is a top-up to NHS services.

This is in stark contrast to nations such as the USA, where to receive healthcare requires insurance premiums and millions of Americans have no cover whatsoever.

Our NHS is frequently held up as an example of state support around the world.

Aneurin Bevan, appointed as health minister, had the job of introducing the reforms. When they were in place, he stated: "We now have the moral leadership of the world."

So, if you celebrate your 60th birthday this year, let us know and share your story with thousands of our readers.

• *Email editorial@kosmedia.co.uk, or write to: Gary Wright, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR.*

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Metropole Hotel	3* Hotel	St Helier	£439	£449	£495	£495
Hampshire Hotel	3* Hotel	St Helier	£455	£465	£495	£495
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Mayor lifts lid on his battle to beat booze

How councillor ended 'love affair with vodka'

By **JAMIE McGINNES**
jamie.mcginnes@kosmedia.co.uk

FOR 20 years alcohol ruled Michael Mahy's life.

If he was happy he would toast his success with a drink. If he was sad he would drown his sorrows.

At the peak of his alcoholism, the former hotel worker consumed two-and-a-half bottles of vodka a day.

He would fall down stairs, was regularly ill and alienated friends. He was, he said, a "complete and utter mess and wreck".

But that all changed when he sought help at Yalding-based Kenward Trust. People from across the UK are referred to the Christian charity, which runs 10 residential 'rehab' clinics to beat drink and drug addiction.

It dramatically turned Michael Mahy's life around. The 58-year-old, who has been sober for 18 years, was made Mayor of Swanley last month.

Cllr Mahy, who was born in Jersey and now lives in Hextable, near Swanley, said that he became an alcoholic as a teenager working in the London area.

"I started drinking going back to when I was about 16," he said. "I worked in the hotel trade and I was continually drinking.

"For many years I got away with it. I held jobs down, had businesses of my own. Gradually it took more and more control over my life and I became physically ill.

"I became a slave to alcohol."

Working in the hotel industry he was surrounded by alcohol, which gradually began to take more of a grip on his life.

By his late 30s, he was drinking two-and-a-half bottles of vodka every day and was eventually barely able to function.

"At the time I started it was almost normal, but it got heavier and heavier and I think you come to use it as a crutch," he said. "If things go well you celebrate, if things go badly you drown your sorrows.

"You become totally dependant on – for everything. I had a wonderful love affair with a bottle of vodka for many years."

He added: "(With) literally any problem, anything, I would reach for the bottle.

"I had years of low moments. I had many accidents, all sorts of things that happened through the alcohol – (I) fell down stairs, fell off benches. I was a complete and utter mess and wreck."

ON THE WAGON: Mayor Michael Mahy is warning the people of the dangers of alcohol after years of addiction

His dependency on the demon drink also deeply affected those close to him.

"I barely had a friend in the world because I'd managed to alienate them all over the years," said Cllr Mahy.

"Even the most wonderful friend has finite patience with you."

He finally sought help from the Kenward Trust, who put him into one of its clinics in Edenbridge.

"I was very weak and had all sorts of physical ailments, so I had to build myself up," said Cllr Mahy.

"I found a lot of support and encouragement and slowly but surely I began to retake control of my life, whereas before the alcohol had had the control."

And he has not fallen off the wagon since quitting.

"I'm so pleased, because I'd never want to go back to that again," he added. "I'm not immune to life's unfairness and I've had plenty of ups and downs, but I've never reached for the bottle."

Free clinics run by the Kenward Trust in Edenbridge, Otford and Swanley form part of the new Sevenoaks District Community Safety Strategy, which sets out plans to address crime in the next three years.

Tony Williams, of the trust, said many of the people at its rehabs have brain damage caused by drinking.

"Alcohol is a very dangerous drug," he said.

• ***For more information about the Kenward Trust, visit www.kenwardtrust.org.uk or call 01622 814187.***

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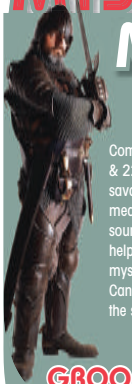

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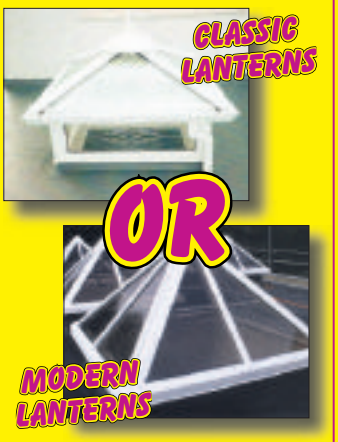

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MOTOR SHOW @

People's attitudes to autism must be changed, says dad

Call for more resources to aid the lifelong need of sufferers

By JENNA PUDELEK
jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

PEOPLE with autism in Kent feel isolated, ignored and face an uphill battle to get the necessary support, according to a report by a national charity.

The National Autistic Society (NAS) spoke to 1,400 adults with the lifelong developmental disability and their families, who revealed heartbreaking and concerning failures by society to meet their needs.

Harry Roberts, who lives in Tenterden, has a 37-year-old daughter, Nadya, who has severe autism and has been in a number of residential care homes since she was 20.

"Nadya has had tremendous support from the authorities," he said. "The problem is the support she needs is frequently not available, because there aren't enough people with the knowledge to support her properly."

The NAS describes being autistic as waking up in another country where no-one speaks your language and people live by a set of social rules completely alien to you.

Autism affects how people communicate with and relate to other people. The charity's report found 63 per cent of people with autism do not have enough support to meet their needs.

Mr Roberts said: "Nadya is a complex individual. People really don't get autism and don't understand her. She has problems processing information and responding."

Although his daughter was originally diagnosed as deaf, she was put in a school for autistic children, which he said was able to meet her needs unlike any residential home since.

He said: "Having a teacher who is a qualified to teach autistic pupils is great, but you just don't get that [level of] staff expertise in residential homes."

Nadya spent a year in a mental hospital in 2005 because the residential home was unable to cope with her challenging behaviour.

Mr Roberts said: "I am not criticising the staff but if we had a system which understood her better, this would not have happened. It's not just a question of throwing money at it, it is about changing attitudes," he said.

Mr Roberts, who is a founding member of the Kent Autistic Trust, said: "Nadya feels isolated. Essentially, people misinterpret her and protesting at this she does get violent.

"She cannot express her needs because her brain is wired differently and she cannot cope with normal social interaction."

He said trying to teach autistic people social skills is a bit like making a programme for blind people to watch to make them see.

"If Nadya doesn't get the right support, she will hit out and exhibit her unhappiness and frustration in actions which are socially unacceptable."

A major concern for parents of autistic adults and children is what will happen when they are unable to support their offspring, or after they pass away.

The NAS's latest campaign, I Exist, aims to raise awareness about the isolation adults with autism feel.

After intensive lobbying, the Government has announced a commitment to improving the lives of autistic adults, the charity said.

Ivan Lewis, the care services minister, unveiled measures in May which include funding research into the needs of autistic children as they approach adulthood.

Mr Robers said Kent County Council does not know how many adults there are with autism in the county and therefore does not know how big the problem is.

There is also no individual who heads up services for people specifically with autism.

Cllr Kevin Lynes, KCC cabinet member for adult social services, said: "As part of efforts to strengthen services for adults with autism, KCC has set up a select committee to look at the issue."

He said the committee was gathering evidence and expert opinions before reporting its findings, which will help KCC change the way it provides services for adults with autism in the future.

Mr Roberts added: "Society has to adapt, like it does in many other ways, to the needs of people with physical and mental disabilities."

MY GIRL: Harry Roberts with daughter Nadya, who is severely autistic

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Maidstone goes green – how can you change your routine?

The first ever 'Maidstone Goes Green' week starts on Monday and runs until 29 June. The week is designed to inform you about environmentally friendly schemes and products that already exist in Maidstone, so you can join in and make a difference.

Kent County Council is working in partnership with Maidstone Town Centre Management team, Maidstone Borough Council, public transport operators Arriva and Nuventure, the three main shopping centres: The Mall Chequers, Fremlin Walk and Royal Star Arcade and other environmentally friendly organisations including Kent Energy Centre, and Country Style, a recycling company.

The three main shopping centres in Maidstone will be showcasing environmentally friendly schemes and products that are focused on travel, recycling and waste. In The Mall Chequers, you can join in the Climate Change pledge to change one thing about your everyday routine, including travel and recycling habits. By giving £1 to make an environmental pledge, you can also enter a competition to win a mountain bike and all of the pledge money will be donated to the World Wildlife Fund.

If you're interested in finding alternative ways to travel to work, Kent Highway Services will have exhibition stands in all three shopping centres, with information about schemes like Kentcarshare and they'll also be launching the new Maidstone public transport map.

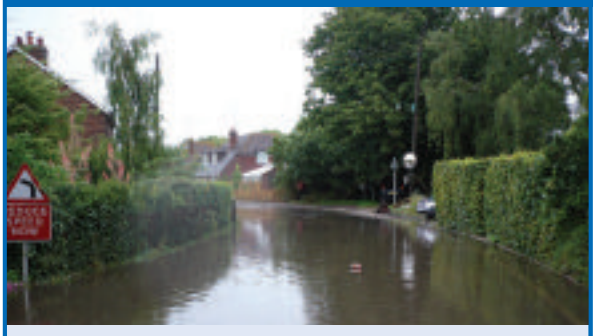
There's fantastic news for young people who want to be greener too, as the Freedom Pass scheme has now arrived in Maidstone. Young people aged 11-16 who are at schools in the area can apply for the pass and it allows them unlimited travel on buses across the county – and that means less 'mum and dad' taxis on the road!

If recycling's your thing, a new scheme for Maidstone that encourages shoppers to reduce, reuse and recycle will be showcased, in The Mall Chequers, Fremlin Walk and the Royal Star Arcade and there'll be a competition in each one to encourage you to recycle while you shop.

Come along to find out more and make small changes to make a big difference.

Think GREEN! 23-29 June

How we're tackling the issue of flooding



Even if you're not a firm believer in the effects of global warming, it's difficult to ignore the increasing number of torrential downpours in Kent and the effects that excessive rain has on our streets and drains.

At Kent Highway Services, we're very conscious of the impact that these downpours are having, which is why we're taking steps to address the problem. We have appointed a team of engineers whose focus is to look at the drainage situation and find solutions for the future.

In theory, draining water away is simple. Rain is either dispersed into the ground via underground chambers called soakaways, or it is fed into ditches, streams and watercourses to eventually reach lakes or the sea. However, this process is complicated by houses and roads being built in the way of this natural flow. This means that more and more areas of land are being paved over, increasing the amount of water run-off that needs to be dealt with - often by drainage systems, which were built a century ago. Torrential downpours are often more than these old systems can cope with and that's when localised flooding occurs.

The problem can't be solved overnight, but we're starting by gathering information about all the known and recent problem areas. Our teams of specialist workers are now tackling these problem areas to make them able to deal with the changing climate.

If you need to report a flooding issue in your area, you can contact us on **08458 247 800** or report it online at **www.kent.gov.uk/highways**

See www.KentTV.com for up-to-date travel information

Resurfacing the roads

Resurfacing a road sounds like a very simple job, but there's actually lots of things that we need to think about to get the job done.

Before we resurface a road, we need to carry out consultation with residents, bus companies, emergency services and utility companies (such as gas, water and electricity). A few days prior to the works starting, we place warning signs and notices about the work in the relevant area to show the start date and how long the works will last.

We carry out most of the resurfacing works during the summer months when we have longer daylight hours and better weather. We always try to keep to the schedule, but resurfacing work is weather dependent, and there will be occasions when it's necessary to change the work dates at short notice.

We also need to consider access to homes and businesses while roads are being resurfaced and, while parking in the work area isn't possible, we do try to maintain access wherever possible.

During the works, safety for both the public and our workers is paramount, so it may sometimes be necessary to close the road. However, where we are able to keep roads open, please help us to get the job done quickly by driving carefully and slowly through the roadworks.

Once the resurfacing is complete, we may need to keep our cones and signs in place until road markings have been renewed and things such as drains and manhole covers have been checked.

You can find out more about the work that we do by calling us on **08458 247 800** or by visiting **www.kent.gov.uk/highways**

Travel Update

Kent Highway Services

Below are roadworks and events that may cause some disruptions. Please remember that these are planned works and other emergency works may be required.

	Start	Finish	Road	Reason
Dover	current	27.6.08	Castle Hill Road, Dover	Road closure - carriageway works
Canterbury	current	4.7.08	Old Bridge Road, Whitstable	Temporary traffic lights - new gas mains
Ashford	current	30.9.08	New Town Road, Ashford	Road closure - railway bridge works
Maidstone	23.6.08	30.9.08	Willington Street, Maidstone	Temporary traffic lights - new gas mains
Thanet	26.6.08	2.7.08	Cliff Terrace, Margate	Road closure - carriageway works

For details of other roadworks in Kent please visit www.kent.gov.uk/travel

For more information, please call 08458 247 800 or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Cushing receives Royal Mail stamp of approval

GOT IT LICKED: Peter Cushing features on the stamps

SILVER screen stars from the county are celebrated on a new set of Royal Mail stamps marking the 50th anniversary of the Carry On films and the first Hammer Films Dracula movie.

Three of Peter Cushing's classic horrors are depicted on the set of six stamps.

The actor, who moved to Whitstable in 1959 and died in Canterbury's Pilgrims Hospice in 1981 aged 81, is clearly pictured on the 56p stamp celebrating the Curse of Frankenstein and is mentioned on those for Dracula – in which he starred alongside fellow legend Christopher Lee.

Artistic

In The Curse of Frankenstein, Cushing played Professor Victor Frankenstein who created the monster. The film was released in 1957 and was one of the first colour movies. His name also appears on the stamp for the film The Mummy.

Cushing was a prolific actor who performed in 97 plays and made 91 films.

Carry On producer Peter Rogers, nicknamed 'Mr Carry On' was born in Rochester, in 1914 and was educated at Kings School, Rochester.

He began his career as a journalist on the Kentish Express before moving into West End theatre productions as an assistant. After a period in hospital during World War Two, Rogers became a radio scriptwriter, then a film scriptwriter.

But his career really took off when he joined Rank Films.

After producing a number of children's films he progressed to Carry On Sergeant in 1958 – little knowing that this 'laughter institution' was going to be a major part of his career.

He produced 31 Carry On films, plus TV specials and took the humour to the West End stage in 1973 where Carry On London ran for 18 months.

Rogers, 94, still has a production company based at Pinewood Studios.

Carry On screenplay writer Talbot Rothwell was born in Bromley in 1914 and was a mainstay of the Carry On team for many years. He also wrote for the TV series Up Pompeii and The Army Game. He was awarded an OBE in 1977 and spent his final years living in Worthing. He died in 1981.

The six Royal Mail stamps feature original cinema posters of six of the best-known Carry On and Hammer Horror productions.

A Royal Mail spokewoman said: "The stamp issue celebrates and unifies the two very different film genres that spanned decades of British cinema and remain popular today."

FILMS BEHIND THE STAMPS

1st Class – Carry On Sergeant
• The first Carry On film, released in 1958, follows the adventures of a hapless group of National Servicemen as they face the culture shock of Army life.

48p – Dracula
• Released in 1958 and the first colour version of Bram Stoker's vampire tale, Dracula starred Christopher Lee as the blood-sucking count with Peter Cushing as his nemesis Professor Van Helsing.

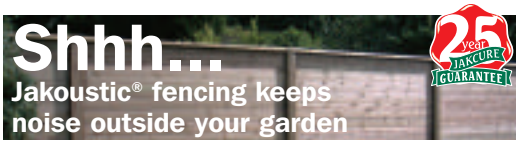
50p – Carry On Cleo
• Released in 1964, Ancient Briton Henghist Pod (Kenneth Connor) accidentally becomes Caesar's (Kenneth Williams) bodyguard and joins him on a trip to the court of Cleopatra.

56p – The Curse of Frankenstein
• Released in 1957, this retelling of Mary Shelley's classic story was one of the first films to do so in full gory colour. Cushing played Victor Frankenstein while Lee was the creature.

72p – Carry On Screaming
• 1966 saw a pastiche on the then popular Hammer Horrors, Carry On Screaming follows the adventures of a pair of Victorian detectives as they investigate a suspicious showroom dummy factory.

81p – The Mummy
• Released in 1959, an archaeologist, John Banning, (Cushing) is pursued by the Mummy of Kharis (Lee) avenging the desecration of the tomb of his lover who is the image of Cushing's fiancé

a lot more choice...



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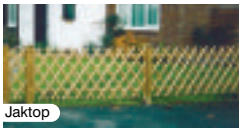
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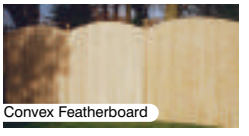
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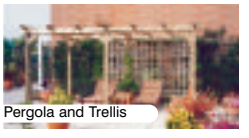
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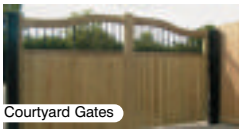
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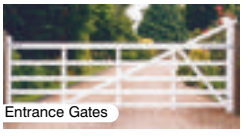
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SICKENING: The body of the dead horse which was found in Swanley

Abandoned horse was tied up and left to die

INSPECTORS have been shocked by two cases of animal cruelty.

In the first case the body of a dead horse was found dumped and tied up, but it is feared the animal may still have been alive when it was abandoned.

The bay horse was found in Gildenhill Road, Swanley, and the RSPCA was called.

Insp Stewart Toop said: "This poor horse was found tied up and dead, but we are worried it may have been alive when dumped.

"It was clearly in a suffering condition and the owners have just dumped it rather than paying out to have it put to sleep then disposing of the body responsibly."

In the other case a cat was shot with an air rifle in Biggin Hill for the second time in a month.

Sooty is also the second cat from the same family to be shot in two months. The black cat was shot last month in the head and managed to get home to its owners in Village Green. It was shot again last week – this time in the back leg.

Only a few weeks before its companion Dusty was shot in the paw and managed to limp home.

Both cats have now recovered. Owner Lorraine Laurence said: "They are both lucky to be alive.

"We can't believe that someone has shot one of our cats twice and the other one once. It is so cruel."

RSPCA inspector Sonya Gray said: "These cats were both shot deliberately and could have been killed. Anyone found shooting cats will be prosecuted and could face stiff penalties. We would like to hear from anyone who knows who is doing this."

Anyone with any information about either case can contact the RSPCA on 03001234999.

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Minister to unveil 'abuse' statue

A SCULPTURE that highlights the scale, scope and cost to victims and society of sexual violence is set to be unveiled at a Kent charity.

Family Matters, in Gravesend, is the largest specialist counselling service in the UK working with child and adult survivors of sexual abuse and rape.

The charity commissioned Crayford-based artist John Exell to create the work, which depicts a lone figure appearing to be in anguish and conflict, and Home Office minister Vernon Coaker will unveil it on Wednesday, June 25.

Malcolm Gilbert, general manager of the charity, said: "One of the most worrying aspects of our work is the amount of isolation we see experienced by victims of rape and sexual abuse.

"Added to that, there is the large number of cases that go unreported.

"We are delighted to have Mr Coaker come to Kent to highlight these important issues and to unveil what we hope will be a talking point and something that perhaps helps to break down a few barriers."

A speech will be given by Mr Coaker about the work the Government is doing to support those affected by sexual violence at the Gravesend Civic Centre.

Family Matters works across Kent in Gravesham, Dartford, Medway, Swale, Ashford, Maidstone, Tunbridge Wells, Tonbridge and Malling and Sevenoaks, as well as in several south east London boroughs including Bexley and Bromley.

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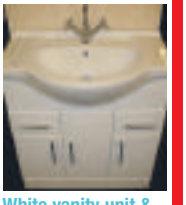

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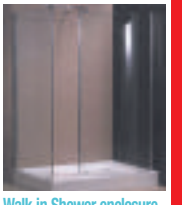

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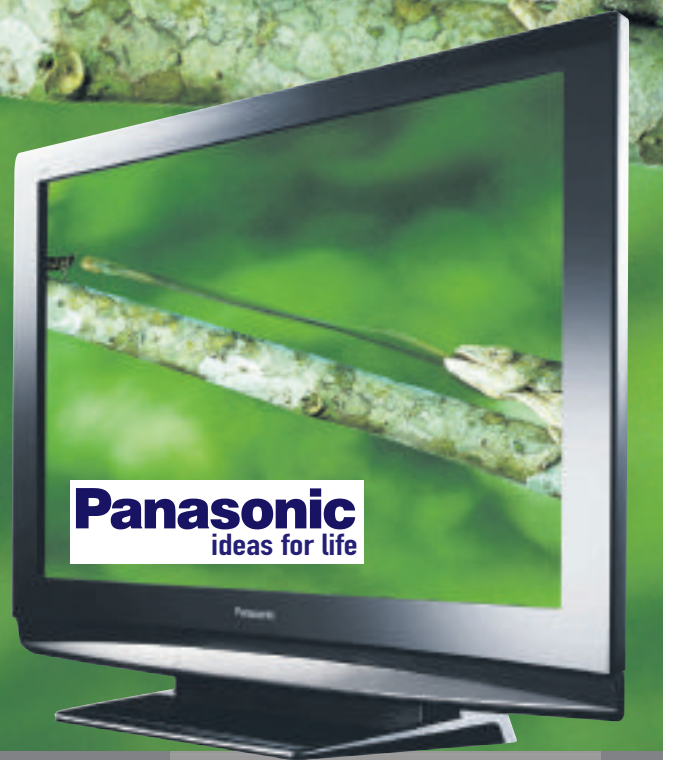

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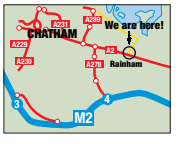

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We'll keep care personal

GP-LED health centres will not lead to the end of patients' personal relationships with their doctors, a West Kent health boss has pledged.

By **JENNA PUDELEK**
jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

But Dr James Thallon, medical director at West Kent Primary Care Trust (PCT), did admit the Government's polyclinic strategy would put pressure on local GPs to improve their services.

He was responding to fears voiced by the British Medical Association that large clinics would see a 'depersonalisation' of care and reduced continuity.

"That is not the intention," he said. "This is an idea from the centre which we have to make something of.

"As a GP, I believe the relationship between GP and patient is wholly important and will remain the cornerstone of my career. It is not our intention to end that."

A network of 150 polyclinics is being rolled out in London. They will offer a range of medical services, such as dentistry and diagnostic tests.

Gateway

The Government also wants at least one polyclinic in each of the country's PCTs. The clinics will be renamed GP-led health centres because they provide fewer services.

West Kent PCT said its new centre, which will operate from 8am to 8pm, seven days a week, will open in the Dartford area to serve residents moving into Thames Gateway developments.

In other parts of the county, PCTs have plans for additional centres.

Eastern and Coastal Kent PCT will open two GP-led health centres, in Swale and Thanet, which will be open from 8am to 8pm seven days a week, with additional services such as therapists and health visitors.

Medway PCT, which opened three new surgeries this year run by the company Malling Health, plans to open a GP-led health centre in Gillingham and three GP surgeries in Luton, Wayfield and Chatham.

Health bosses say the new centres will improve patient access to services through longer hours and greater flexibility.

An East Kent PCT spokesman said it was "naïve" to assume everyone was registered with a GP. "A lot of professional people or those who have moved house have not had the time. If you haven't got a GP, there is a walk-in capacity."

Dr Thallon, who is one of six partners at a GP practice in Tunbridge Wells, said the strategy stems from government concern that it needs to get more value out of primary care.

He said there was a small minority of people whose needs were not being met.

Answering concerns from GPs aired in last week's Kent on Sunday that the centres would lead to the privatisation of primary care, and that contracts for polyclinics would be likely to go to large corporations, he said: "I know people worry about private health care.

"But I've been involved in the tendering processes and the most recent, a health centre in Staplehurst, was won by local GPs.

"They were the ones unequivocally committed to personalised health care."

But he said some patients want to be able to visit their GPs' practice whenever they want and do not mind which doctor they see.

"GPs do not cater for that very well and are not doing enough to meet that need. There will be a little bit of a challenge and pressure [for GPs], but patients will benefit," he said.

Dr Thallon said it was true that a private contractor could run the new centre. "We are looking for people to run a modern primary care centre," he said. "I think [GPs] will have to look at what they offer and it will put local practices under pressure to open a bit more often."

In West Kent about 90 per cent of GPs had already agreed to extend their opening hours, he said, and 75 per cent had already started, compared with just 18 per cent nationally.

"Commercialisation is not in our PCT's plans. The criteria we are looking at emphasises continuity of care."

Asked if polyclinics would mean the end of small family practices, he said: "No. But there are negotiations in Tunbridge Wells with three practices which want to join together. This has come directly from them, so it is not just a top-down process."

He added that the changes the PCT is working towards will not be "quite as radical" as the BMA and others opposed to the plans fear.

Trust rebuts Tory claims

THE NHS in East Kent has defended itself after claims by the Conservative Party that scores of GP surgeries were under threat from planned polyclinics.

The party said it had uncovered documents "buried" on 58 primary care trust websites listing 608 family doctors' practices near to the proposed "super-surgeries".

Eastern and Coastal Kent PCT was among them and listed on its website were 42 GP practices in Thanet and Swale, where the tendering process has begun to find a contractor to build two GP-led health centres.

A Tory official claimed: "The implication is that these practices would be the competitors from which new providers of polyclinics would take their business."

But a PCT spokesman said there had been a "misinterpretation" of plans for new GP-based services.

He said: "GP-led health centres differ from polyclinics. Polyclinics may be effective for some areas, but certainly won't be adopted as 'one size fits all' across this PCT.

"Research shows that, like every other PCT, we could benefit from greater GP access.

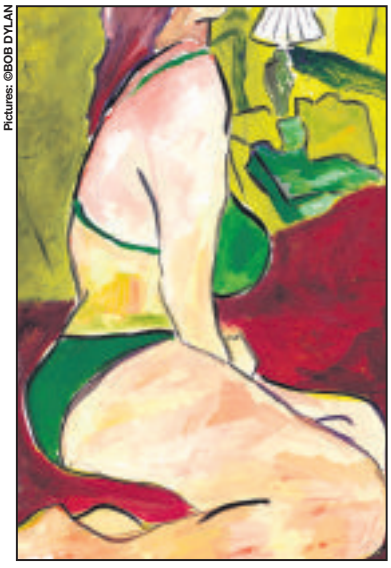
"It is because of this need that we are developing plans for GP-led health centres.

"These will complement existing provision, not replace it, and will offer these services in areas needing more doctors."

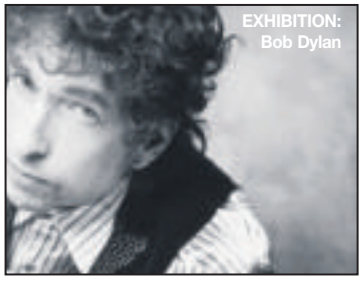
New health centres are also planned for Dover and Ashford, which will offer similar services to polyclinics, such as X-rays, blood tests, post- and antenatal care and minor injuries treatment.

Artwork proof enigma Dylan has more than just a way with words

Pictures: ©BOB DYLAN



ON THE ROAD: Paintings by Bob Dylan, such as Woman on a Bed, were inspired while touring from 1989 to 1992



EXHIBITION: Bob Dylan

Picture: ©MARK SELIGER

By **JAMIE McGINNES**
jamie.mcginnes@kosmedia.co.uk

A STRIKING series of drawings and sketches by legendary singer-songwriter Bob Dylan have gone on display in Kent.

They are limited edition prints of watercolour and gouache works being exhibited at the Halcyon Gallery in London, based on drawings and sketches by Dylan while he was on the road from 1989 to 1992

The collection, called The Drawn Blank Series, are on show at The Art Room, at Fenwicks in Canterbury, and Castle Galleries at Bluewater Shopping Centre.

Samantha Jackson, marketing director of Washington Green Fine Art Publishing, said: "This is an incredible and unique opportunity to view and acquire a limited edition graphic from the critically acclaimed body of work by Bob Dylan.

"For those people lucky enough to buy one of his graphics they will not only own a magnificent piece of art, but also a little piece of history. The art not only gives us an insight into the soul and imagination of Dylan the artist, but also Dylan the man. We are incredibly proud to launch this unique collection of limited edition graphics in the UK."

The prints are all hand signed by Dylan and limited to 295 copies each, with a starting price of £1,000. They are due to be on show until at least the end of July.

In a tune released in 1971, Dylan sang about dodging lions and wastin' time on the streets of Rome, sailin' round the world in a gondola and a plane ride to Brussels "so bumpy that I almost cried".

Wistful

The typically wistful song was called When I Paint My Masterpiece.

But if a career as an artist doesn't work out, the 67-year-old has very little to worry about.

One of the world's most famous musicians, Dylan has sold more than 110 million albums and performed thousands of shows around the world in a career spanning five decades.

Over the last 46 years he has released an amazing 44 albums and written more than 500 songs including Blowin' in the Wind, The Times They Are A-Changin, Like a Rolling Stone, Knockin' on Heaven's Door and Make You Feel My Love.

His songs have been covered more than 3,000 times by artists ranging from Duke Ellington to the Rolling Stones, Bob Marley and Rod Stewart.

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His most recent album, Modern Times (2006), which has sold more than 2.5 million copies to date, entered the Billboard Top 200 Albums chart in America at number one.

In April he was awarded a special Pulitzer Prize for "his profound impact on popular music and American culture, marked by lyrical compositions of extraordinary poetic power".

News and sport updated daily online
www.kentnews.co.uk

How you can really help save the whale

A ONE-DAY course training volunteers in how to help rescue a stranded whale, dolphin or seal is being held next month.

The training will be carried out by the British Divers Marine Life Rescue at the Walpole Bay Hotel in Margate on Sunday, July 13.

It will start with an indoor lecture from BDMLR volunteers, before heading out to the Walpole Bay tidal pool for a practical session.

Participants will be split into three groups to carry out mock rescues with life-sized marine mammals.

Life jackets will be provided, but you will need to bring and wear a wet or dry suit, dive boots or hard-sole shoes (old trainers will suffice, although they will get wet), a towel and change of clothing, as participants will be in the water for a couple of hours.

Thanet Coast Project education officer Naomi Biggs said: "Anyone who takes part in this course will then be added to the list of local Marine Mammal Medics and will be contacted to help with future rescues of stranded or injured marine mammals such as seals and harbour porpoises."

The training costs £70 per person for members of the public, with a subsidised rate for Volunteer Coastal Wardens. Booking and payment in advance is essential. Booking can be made online on the Thanet Coast Project's website www.thanetcoast.org.uk or for more information call 01843 577672.

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ON THE TRAIL: The Band of Historical Hillwalkers will trace Hogarth's trek from Rochester to the Isle of Grain – a bawdy trip that would cause a stir even in today's gossip columns

Walk on artist's wild side

By **JENNA PUDELEK**
jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

WHEN acclaimed 18th century artist William Hogarth left London with a group of friends for a five-day trip through Medway, the roguish men-about-town found much to amuse themselves.

Now, a group of modern-day artists, the Band of Historical Hillwalkers, are set to follow in their footsteps in an eight-hour trek from Rochester to Grain.

Rick Bison, the Hillwalkers' spokesman, has been studying Hogarth's illustrated account of his 1732 jaunt, which contains drawings, poetry and text giving an insight into the world of one of England's most witty, satirical and subversive creative talents.

"By his own account, he and his mates were quite a wild bunch," Mr Bison said.

"Exploits he admits to are drinking way too much, having play fights with stones and pigs' dung, and Hogarth himself doing a poo in the doorway of Hoo Church.

"Luckily I know the vicar of Hoo very well so if anybody is caught short on our walk, I'll give him a call and ask if we can use his toilet."

In the 18th century it was fashionable for artists to study the art and architecture of Italy and Greece, and it is thought Hogarth's journey to Medway was a reaction against this trend – to seek inspiration closer to home.

Beer

Hogath's account tells how the group climbed "with some difficulty" to the top of the battlements of Rochester castle taking in "a view of a beautifull country, a fine river and some of the noblest shipps in the world".

The group went on to enjoy a long lunch of "dish of soles and flounders with crab sauce, a calves heart stuff'd and roasted y liver fry'd" along with beer and port, before setting off "to seek adventures".

They walked to Chatham, stopping to eat fresh shrimps and admire the naval ships stationed at the dockyard.

Heavy rain met the group as they walked along the River Medway in Stroud (Strood), before continuing to Frendsbury and stopping to sketch in Upner.

The Hoo Church incident is recounted stating that "Hogarth finish'd his business against the church door".

At one point there is "much laughter" as two are forced to "lye together" because there are not enough single rooms at the Nagg's Head in Stock.

Passages continue with mention of several inns and alehouses along the way. Mr Bison said: "They were larking about, playing hopscotch in Rochester high street which was probably not the done thing in the 18th century.

"It's hard to say what he was like but it seems they were cut loose from their normal lives and enjoying it the same as a group of lads that might go to Ibiza now.

"It shows he was really human and his pictures were really good. What we've learnt from our group is that walking and doing art at the same time as it is difficult to give it sufficient time and his sketches are very good."

Hogarth, who has inspired modern artists including Paula Rego, is famed for his pioneering of sequential, or comic book, art.

The Hillwalkers, who are based in Medway, will be taking in the changing landscape and times since Hogarth's frolics on June 28 and anyone with a creative side is welcome to take part.

Mr Bison said he believed developers had applied for planning permission to build on part of the riverside path, untouched in Hogarth's day, so it could be one of the last chances for people to follow in the artist's exact footsteps.

He added that people of all artistic abilities were welcome to come along and make sketches or take photographs to record the walk.

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Fingerprint device helping police put a name to the face

IT'S A MATCH: New machines match prints stored on the National Fingerprint Database

By CHRIS MURPHY
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

POLICE have used one of their new mobile electronic fingerprint devices to identify a man who died suddenly.

The high-tech machines can be used to establish a person's identity if they are already on the National Fingerprint Database, Ident1.

Since taking delivery of two machines earlier this month, a number of North Kent officers have been trained to use the new technology, and the equipment is now used routinely by patrol and tactical teams on the streets of North Kent.

Identity

Officers in Gravesend used the device to identify a dead man had no form of identification on him.

Using the device, the officers brought up an identity for the man and allowed offices to more quickly arrange for notification of next-of-kin and for formal identification procedures to take place.

The man died of natural causes and the incident is not being treated as suspicious.

The machine was also used on two shoplifters who had been detained at a store in Gravesend.

The women tried to give false details, but officers checked their fingerprints using the equipment and were immediately able to discover their true identities.

Both were issued with penalty notices and it also saved the officers two to three hours processing time and paperwork as they did not have to bring the offenders into custody to check their information.

The force said the initial response from officers using the equipment is that it was a great time saving device, not only for them but for the public.

Chief Inspector Philip Painter, who is in charge of policing operations in North Kent, said: "This new fingerprint system is a fantastic add-on to the new technology we are already using in North Kent, from mobile technology in our police vehicles to body-worn video which our officers are piloting across the area.

"All of these systems cut down on bureaucracy and allow our officers to spend more time out on the streets fighting crime and tackling issues that are of concern to our communities in North Kent."

The Kent trial of the 10 machines, called Operation Lantern, will run until the end of the year.

The fingerprints taken of anyone not on Ident1 will be discarded immediately and not stored on any database, police emphasised.

Members of the public who are asked to take part in the scheme can refuse – but then could find themselves arrested until their identity is established.

Lantern has been developed to increase the amount of time officers spend on the streets, taking away the need to take a person back to the police station to establish their identity.

It works by electronically scanning the person's index finger. The scan is then sent, using encrypted wireless transmissions, to the national fingerprint database.

A search is then carried out against the collection of 6.5 million prints and any matches are returned to the officers within five minutes.

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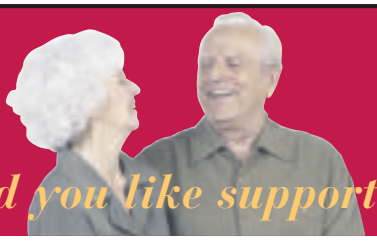

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Signs a warning to Maccy D litter bugs

NEW signs have been put up to try and stop litter louts dropping fast-food wrappers in the street.

Canterbury City Council said although staff at McDonald's in Chestfield regularly litter pick the site and surrounding areas, customers still throw food and packaging from their cars and even empty their ashtrays onto the ground.

Town hall street scene inspectors have already issued two £80 fixed penalties for littering in the car park and PCSOs will also patrol the area to catch litter louts.

People who fail to pay a fine can be taken to court, where they could be fined up to £2,500.

Council environmental promotions officer, Helen Bennington, said: "Dropping litter is anti-social and can make the place look untidy.

"McDonald's does its best to keep the area around its restaurant clean, but we felt we needed to remind people of the fines they could receive.

"Our inspectors will be visiting Chestfield and if they see litter being dropped, fixed penalty notices will be issued."

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Stars back kart circuit's bid to attract young drivers

By CHRIS MURPHY
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

A HOST of motor racing greats are helping to launch a new karting scheme that will let youngsters feel the need for speed for just a fiver.

John Surtees won the world championship on two and four wheels, and he will be joined by Ross Brawn, Honda's Formula One team principal and Michael Schumacher's former technical director at the start of the scheme.

Also in the starting line up will be McLaren F1 test driver Gary Paffett, who was born in Bromley, and sports car hero David Brabham, who is currently preparing for this year's 24 Hour Le Mans.

Launch

They will visit Buckmore Park karting track near Chatham on Monday, June 23, to help launch the scheme called Let's Go Karting.

It gives youngsters aged 8-16 a chance to get behind the wheel of a kart for a £5 taster session.

The scheme is the brainchild of the Motor Sports Association, the sport's governing body.

It will ensure all the children taking part are provided with full safety training by qualified instructors, along with special safety kit and equipment, before having the chance to take to the track and test their skills.

Mr Surtees, an MBE, said: "Karting is an integral part of motorsport as it is the traditional entry point into racing.

"Britain has an excellent heritage in karting but it has always been a relatively expensive sport, which means some people have been excluded.

"Lewis Hamilton's success has caused a huge surge of interest so it's wonderful to be able to help launch Let's Go Karting, which will open up the thrill and joy of the sport to thousands more youngsters."

And Colin Hilton, chief executive of the Motor Sports Association, added: "Let's Go Karting is a ground-breaking campaign for the MSA. It it represents the first concerted effort at a national level to bring people into karting and therefore into motor sport.

"We have to break down the barriers to entry across the entire sport and one of the key barriers is finance.

"Let's Go Karting will make it possible for anyone to try it, without first having to make an investment in their own equipment, and that opens up the sport to a whole audience that was previously excluded.

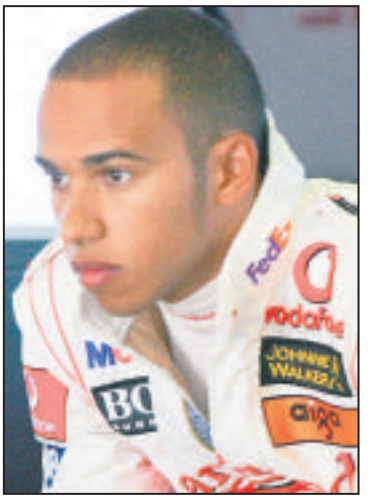
"With the summer holidays coming up it's the ideal chance for parents to take their children along to their local participating track and give the sport a go."

The track is where McLaren star Lewis Hamilton was first discovered by Ron Dennis. Fellow Formula One driver Jenson Button honed his skills as a youngster there too.

Karting sessions can often cost up to £75 but this cut-price offer will still include safety equipment; a qualified trainer to run briefings on basic driving skills, and safety procedures.

The youngsters can then take to the track, and if they get the bug, return for more intensive training sessions.

• ***Full details of the scheme can be found at www.LetsGoKarting.net.***



LET'S GO: The karting circuit is where Lewis Hamilton cut his teeth on the road to fame and fortune in Formula One

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WOMEN for MEN

SINGLE mum, 20, very caring and loving, enjoys the usual things in life, socialising, music, films, seeks genuine male for a relationship or just friends. Box 891152 **TXT**

21YR old female, blonde hair, medium build, enjoys country walks, fun nights out, playing golf etc...looking for guy 21-27 to share fun times with! Heathfield. Box 891190 **TXT** P

KIND, creative, humorous girl, 23, seeks witty, loving older man interested in theatre, tv, comedy and music, and with a love of animals. Box 930187 **TXT** P

27YR old, mother of 1, enjoys cooking, films, music and going to the pub. Looking for a man to have a giggle with. Eastbourne. Box 891393 **TXT** P

I'M a tall, blonde half-Dutch woman, 27, love swimming, power-walking and music, festivals! Looking for a lovely man with GSOH, for something special! Eastbourne. Box 893230 **TXT** P

ARE you the one? I'm 33, single, 5ft2, pure country lass from farming background, seeking my lovely country man to make me forever happy. Box 892265 **TXT** P

ATTRACTIVE female, 5'3", 30, brown hair/eyes, GSOH, likes countryside, restaurants, tap-dance, clay modelling. seeks charming family man, 37-42. Steve 40, from Maidstone please call again. Box 806385 **TXT**

I'M a social, caring and sensual woman, 33, who enjoys having fun, conversation, arts, music and eating out, seeking a like-minded, upbeat man. Box 899177 **TXT** P

SINGLE, kind, caring animal lover, 34, from Kent, likes cooking, cinema, theatre, most music, seeks non-smoking male 34-38 for LTR. Box 440782 **TXT**

OUTGOING, funny, young-looking female, 34, 5ft3, brown hair/eyes, Tonbridge. Seeks caring, loyal male for friendship, leading to more. Box 433107 **TXT** P

SINGLE Mum, 35, own place, loves animals, nights in, very down2earth, seeking caring male, looks unimportant, fun-loving personality essential. Box 440671 **TXT**

MUM of three, 36, long mousey hair, blue eyes, interested in historical places, music, eating out, seeks kind, caring, genuine male 36-49, non-smoker, for LTR. Box 440693 **TXT**

SINCERE female, quiet, friendly and genuine, 39, 5ft1, looking for friendship, possibly relationship. Likes cosy nights in, restaurants, going out, martial arts. Kent area. Box 901235 **TXT**

LONELY, bored, professional Tunbridge Wells Asian lady, 40, WLTM slim, single, solvent, professional white male 40-50 for company, fun, love and laughter. Box 440304

HI, I'm a fun-loving woman early 40, 5'1", curvy, enjoy eating out and cooking to walking, looking for man for happiness. Box 894398 **TXT**

FUN-LOVING, vivacious woman, 41, 5ft1, enjoys dining out, walking, cinema, looking for a confident man with GSOH, N/S for friendship & maybe more. Box 896889 **TXT**

FUN-LOVING, vivacious lady, 41, one son, enjoys dining out, walking, cinema, romantic meals, seeking confident man with GSOH, N/S, for friendship, maybe more. Kent. Box 895679 **TXT**

YOUNG-LOOKING/ACTING curvy woman, 41, looking for someone special, for nights out/in. Hopefully leading to something amazing and long term. Box 746781 **TXT** P

I'M Caroline, 42, single mum, likes having fun, eating out, wine bars, swimming, looking for someone for something meaningful. Box 430952 **TXT**

PROFESSIONAL 41yr old female, 5'9", dark hair, blue eyes, single mum, happy-go-lucky, into sports, looking for professional, tall male, for laughter and happiness. Box 420077

HARD-WORKING female, 41, 5'4", bubbly, independent woman, love to laugh, socialising with friends, looking for independent man who values TLC. Box 414156 **TXT**

KAY, 43, 5ft1, medium build, enjoys cinema, bowling, restaurants, foreign travel, the beach! seeking my Mr Right, so give me a call! Box 440574

TALL, outgoing lady, 43, large build, newly settled in Kent, needs to spread her wings and meet a nice chap! Let's chat! Box 895908 **TXT** P

FUN-LOVING 41, happy, caring, N/S brunette, size 12, 5ft3, likes to laugh, enjoy most things, looking for that special person to share my life. Eastbourne. Box 897642 **TXT**

NIKI, 44, I'm like marmite you will love or hate me. Cuddly, outgoing, female, looking to be captured with laughter, are you brave enough ? Box 894205 **TXT** P

DEAL-BASED lady, 43, divorced, brunette, green eyes, 5ft10, likes going out, pubs, clubs, cinema, shopping, walks, loves films and all sports except cricket. Box 430384 **TXT** P

PETITE, sincere woman, 44, wavy blonde hair, blue eyes, size 10, loves beach walks, animals, DIY, swimming, travelling, WLTM N/S man to share things with. Box 429682 **TXT**

HI! I'm 45, 5ft6, largish build, blue eyes, non-smoker/driver, mother of two (daughter 10/son 15), seeking male to share life with, walks, beaches and more.Canterbury. Box 440592

ONE woman, 45, no lies, one tie, honest, warm and kind. Are you tall, honest, single, motivated, and genuine? If so get in touch... Box 918163 **TXT**

SLIM, petite Sandy, 46, brown hair, green eyes, no ties, loves socialising, eating out etc, GSOH, seeking trustworthy, honest man for partnership and mutual affection. Box 440100 **TXT**

44YR old female, blonde hair, 5ft5, slim, easygoing, enjoy many things in life, looking for someone similar out there to enjoy life with! Box 436810 **TXT**

CARING, honest 46yr old female, 5'2", eyes of blue, redhead. Likes cinema, theatre, walking. WLTM male for fun and friendship. Box 895928 **TXT**

FRIENDLY, bubbly, fun-loving woman, 45, 5'4", GSOH, enjoys socialising, pubs, music, eating in/out, own home/car, smoker, looking for honest man 44-55, who enjoys life. Box 823441 **TXT** P

KIND, loving female, 44, blonde, 5'4", medium/curvy build, likes reading, live music, countryside, walks, seeks similar, adventurous male for happy times together. Kent. Box 805846 **TXT**

SINCERE, happy woman, with GSOH. I'm 5ft6, with short brown hair, brown eyes. I have lots of interests and WLTM similar guy. Box 895019 **TXT**

HI, I'm Laura, 47, friendly, honest, love motor-biking, WLTM gentleman interested in bikes, walks, holidays, the countryside, museums, castles, and perhaps love! Box 440397 **TXT**

HAPPY, fit, youthful 48yr old single mum, OHAC, very good sense of humour. Likes all the normal social things. Very honest. Seeking sincere, stable, solvent man. Box 895929 **TXT**

GENUINE, outgoing single mum, 48yr old, enjoys swimming, the outdoors and travelling, WLTM a male to travel and enjoy life with. Take the plunge! Box 891011 **TXT** P

HI I'm Mandy, chocolate brown hair, blue eyes, 48, seeking human male (preferably) for nights out, socialising, clubbing, meals, lots of laughs and much more. Box 437489 **TXT**

HELP me write my stand-up comedy routine! I'm 49, you'll need to make me laugh out loud and understand observational comedy to make the grade. Box 892640 **TXT**

BUBBLY, voluptuous, very warm-hearted, tactile woman, 49, looking for that special someone to share cuddles, romantic evening in/out and possible relationship. Box 440879

GENUINE, friendly female, 49, likes walks, gardening, nights in/out, seeking genuine, friendly male, 45-55. Dover. Box 435441 **TXT**

HI guys I'm 5ft6, blonde with slim figure, 50, love dancing, meals and drinks, seeking similar males to find true love with. Box 440426 **TXT**

49Y/O female, medium build, blonde, quite short, seeking tall, confident, sensual guy for regular wining, dining, loving and laughter, honest, genuine and loving. Box 438854 **TXT**

PETITE, brunette, bubbly, friendly, easygoing single mum, 49, enjoys cinema, eating out, socialising, most things, WLTM genuine male, to see where life takes us! Box 893562 **TXT**

PROFESSIONAL female 49, 5ft4, long hair, slim, likes eating out, the beach, travel, seeks a friendly chap, 48-55. Hastings. Box 417100 **TXT**

SLIM lady, 49 years old, brown hair/eyes, likes socialising, concerts/gigs, eating in/out, about time to meet someone to enjoy the simple things with. Box 422238 **TXT**

PETITE, blonde female, 50, GSOH, likes music, books, films, cooking, looking for romantic soulmate, 40-55, for TLC. Kent. Box 835181 **TXT** P

HI I'm Sarah, 51, 5ft2, long dark hair, like cooking, going out, films, music, lots of interests! Seeking friendship, maybe more later. Box 441193 **TXT**

HI, I'm a kind female, 52, slim, 5ft3, dark hair. I like music, dancing, reading, coast, countryside. Seeking kind, genuine man, 45-60, for LTR. Box 430032 **TXT**

BRIGHT, bubbly lady, 52, 5'4", blonde hair, recently divorced, own home and car, enjoy cinema, eating out, drinks, looking for companionship and friendship. Box 419966 **TXT**

LIVELY, understanding female, 51, large build, WLTM genuine, loving male, 46-58, for lasting, loving relationship. Box 399271 **TXT**

53, fit and healthy, single now for nine years and can't find the right man! If you enjoy sports and live music let's chat! Box 923309 **TXT** P

HOMELY type, 54, a smoker, enjoys the seaside, TV and quiet nights in, WLTM tall builder-type to be my best friend & soulmate. Box 441241 **TXT**

LOVELY, curvaceous lady, 57yr old, enjoys visual arts, travelling, WLTM a genuine male, 50-69 for friendship/romance. Box 441382 **TXT**

SINCERE female, 57, caring, separated, I enjoy nights in/out, reading, walking, various activities, just separated for a friend and the see from there! Box 437420 **TXT**

EASYGOING female, 62, nights in and out, drama, social drinks, seeks nice, honest man for friendship and maybe more. Box 440491 **TXT**

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BRUNETTE female, 59, N/S, 5ft5, hazel eyes, slim/medium, likes meals out, occasional drinks, gardening, music, keeping fit, days out at coast, seeks friendship... Box 434895 **TXT**

WIDOWER, early 60s, 5ft4, dark hair/eyes, medium build, non-smoking, loving, caring, no baggage! enjoys travelling, socialising, eating in/out, seeking similar male to enjoy life with.Rye. Box 441177 **TXT**

WIDOW, early 60s, 5ft4, dark hair/eyes, medium build, non-smoking, loving, caring, no baggage! enjoys travelling, swimming/walking/gardening, socialising, eating in/out, seeking genuine male. Box 891076 **TXT** P

CARING, loyal and young-at-heart lady, 65, 5ft, blonde hair, looking for someone nice, friendly, who likes eating out, restaurants, holidays, for company. Box 899242 **TXT**

Women for women

SLIM, considerate and generous female, 36yr old, enjoys reading, cooking and music, WLTM an easy-going, genuine female for friendship, relationship. Box 441264 **TXT**

40-YEAR-OLD gay woman, likes nice wine, candlelight, the sea, passionate people and places, muddy walks and cosy nights in, WLTM gay woman for friendship/relationship. Seaford. Box 894541 **TXT** P

CARING, short brown-haired woman, 43, 5ft4, loves good food, cinemas, pubs, cosy nights in, seeking someone special for friendship and possible relationship. Eastbourne. Box 440675 **TXT**

49 years young female, genuine, 5ft2, medium build, blonde, looking to meet sensual, feminine lady, up to 55, with great figure, for sensual fun. Box 438851 **TXT**

MEN for WOMEN

UPBEAT male, 24, 6ft3, slim, GSOH, enjoys walks and eating out. WLTM bubbly female, 22-30, for fun times and romantic dinners together. Box 890997 **TXT** P

HANDSOME, muscular African male, 31yr old, enjoys good wine/food and socialising. WLTM a nice and pretty lady to share my life with. Box 441291 **TXT**

MALE, 32, 6ft3, medium build, brown hair/eyes, honest guy, fun-loving and caring, animal lover, seeking female with similar interests 25-40 for fun, friendship and more. Box 438658 **TXT** P

GENUINE, honest, laidback 33yr old, 5ft6, enjoys walking/visiting POI, films/music, WLTM nice lady, 25-40, for friendship, maybe more. Stacey, please call again, leave contact details! Box 440984 **TXT**

LAIDBACK guy, 33, fit, fun-loving, not unattractive! seeks adventurous woman who's interested in uncomplicated friendship and fun...if you know what I mean! Box 891169 **TXT**

GOOD-LOOKING guy, 33, dark hair, slim, 5ft11, likes most things, gym, cinema, sports, looking for lady 22 - 30, hopefully leading to a relationship. Box 420859 **TXT** P

DECENT honest Dad, 35, dark hair, brown eyes, good-looking, 6ft5, medium-muscular build, likes weight-training, body building, keeping fit, reading, seeking curvy female for fun, friendship...maybe more. Box 441351 **TXT**

I'M Andy, 35, work full time, have own car, N/S, faithful natured, reliable, no ties, no kids, WLTM a nice lady to woo and win! Box 893907 **TXT** P

NORMAL decent chap, 35, seeking friendship and possibly more, someone to enjoy days out, travel, drinks, socialising and more with. Box 441182 **TXT**

HARD-WORKING Dad, 35, 6ft, light brown hair/medium build, OHAC, 2 children, enjoys walking, cycling, cinema, bowling, socialising, meals in/out, seeking similar female 26-41 with GSOH! Box 441198

I'M 35, 6ft, have a beautiful 3yr old little girl, very honest, caring, looking for someone I can love and make a new life with... Box 896178 **TXT** P

HONEST, kind, caring male, 37, blond, 6ft, enjoys walks, cinema, nights in/out, family life, WLTM like-minded, genuine female. Sarah, please call again, leave contact details! Box 430440 **TXT** P

CARING, reliable, attractive male, 36, dark hair/blue eyes, N/S, no ties, GSOH, sociable, seeks kind, down-to-earth, attractive female, for company and hopefully romance. Margate. Box 410659 **TXT** P

DOWN-TO-EARTH, loyal guy, 36, looking for companionship, leading to a long-term relationship. Enjoys meals out, good company, conversation, cosy evenings in. Box 914917 **TXT** P

LAID-BACK, sincere male, 38, 5ft11, fair hair green eyes, enjoys travelling, football, family time, seeking easygoing, fun-loving. Box 441389 **TXT**

PLEASANT male, 39, 6ft tall, medium build, brown hair, enjoys rock music and socialising, WLTM a genuine lady for a fun friendship, maybe romance later. Box 441326 **TXT**

CARING single dad, 41, 5'10", average build, young-looking. WLTM lady for friendship evenings out, maybe more. Recently quit smoking! E Sussex. Box 963530 **TXT** P

HI I'm Nick, 41, 5ft11, enjoy cinema, eating out, golf, WLTM similar brown-haired female for good times and lots of fun, perhaps love. Box 440769 **TXT**

BLONDE guy, 42, 5ft8, medium build, enjoys the outdoors, gardening and walks on the beach, seeking lady with similar interests for a relationship. East Sussex. Box 441051 **TXT**

RECENTLY separated man, 41, enjoys meals out, socialising, driving, cinema, seeking a similar active lady for friendship maybe romance. Box 433334 **TXT**

HELLO you, if you're fed up with looking back at the past and wondering 'oh what if?' I'm 41 and I'm your man! Box 909888 **TXT** P

EASYGOING, honest male, 43, 5ft9, likes to enjoy life, socialise, travel, holidays, walks...seeking similar female with honesty and GSOH for loving times. Box 441346 **TXT**

GOOD-LOOKING male, 42, 6'2", well built, muscular, fit, enjoys cars, motorbike, golf, rugby, socialising, travel, seeks female for friendship, leading to serious relationship. Box 158489 **TXT**

WARM, tactile male, 42, 6ft, likes socialising, pubs, clubs, cosy nights in. seeks like minded female, for friendship, more. Box 388967 **TXT**

HONEST, tactile, romantic male 42, 5'10", green eyes, varied interests, the gym, wining, dining out, seeks female/single mum, 30-45, for friendship and more. Box 390669 **TXT** P

DIVORCED male, 45, 5ft11, brown hair, medium build, likes pubs, clubs, swimming, football, seeks sociable woman for something special. Box 435091 **TXT**

CLEAN shaven, happy male, 45, stocky build, 5'10", smoker, single dad, blue eyes, looking for friendship/companionship, leading to a LTR. Hailsham. Box 409782 **TXT** P

PROFESSIONAL male, 45, own home/car, likes cinemas, weekends away, the coast, a BBQ and good wine, looking for friendship, hopefully more. Box 426202 **TXT**

SINCERE, kind-hearted, passionate, black male, 46, 6'1", loves life, meals out, socialising, WLTM like-minded, fun-loving female for great times together. Box 397808

PROFESSIONAL businessman, 46, divorced, tall, fit, easygoing, romantic, tactile, enjoys good food & wine, holidays, sport, outdoor life, relaxing, having fun! Tunbridge Wells/Brighton. Box 895345 **TXT**

KIND, considerate, caring, honest guy, 47, 6ft, hazel eyes, brown hair, medium build, like football, swimming, reading, driving, seeking caring female to share life with! Box 892531 **TXT** P

HI there, I'm 47, 6ft, athletic, good-looking, divorced, own business, GSOH, love music, swimming, meals, cinema, theme parks! seeking slimmish lady 30-45 for possible relationship... Box 439919 **TXT**

DECENT chap, 47, 5ft10, slim/medium build, clean shaven, non-smoker, GSOH, like a drink, eating out, cinema, theatre, cycling, animals, WLTM similar female for platonic friendship, companionship. Box 441168 **TXT**

SINCERE, down-to-earth male, 47, 6ft, good-looking, athletic, own business, likes swimming, cinema, music, gigs, walking, seeking slim, laid-back lady, 28-45, for potential LTR. Box 440847 **TXT**

YOUTHFUL dad, 45, 5'10", brown hair, med build, divorcee, likes pubs, cinema, restaurants, theme parks, WLTM female, 36-45, slim, for possible LTR. Cranbrook. Box 737529 **TXT**

GOOD-LOOKING male, 47, VGSOH, medium build, varied interests, looking for friendship and love with honest, easy-going female with GSOH, kids not a problem. Box 898446 **TXT**

SLIM, single Scorpio male, 49, intelligent, warm with a wicked SOH, considerate, honest, passionate guy looking for a similar woman. Box 892156 **TXT** P

YOUNG-LOOKING 49yr old, plays the saxophone, lots of hobbies & interests, seeking spiritually-minded woman, for good conversation and to make the most of life! Box 441348 **TXT**

MICHAEL, 49, hard-working, shy, likes music, classic cars, good meals, socialising; WLTM female with similar interests to care for and find true happiness with. Box 439215 **TXT**

HI, I'm 50 with two grown up kids, love country pubs, walks, life, GSOH, WLTM a nice lady to get to know of any age. Box 439922 **TXT**

LOVING and considerate male, 53yr old, enjoys walks on the beach, gardening, motor-sports and eating out. WLTM a female for a long term relationship. Box 441267

DOWN2EARTH, intelligent chap, 57, enjoys working out, seeking female for tactile, long-term relationship. Brighton. Box 441157 **TXT**

HI I'm 58, not perfect but got loads of love to give, enjoy travel, socialising, film, music, WLTM similar girl for lasting happiness. Gillingham. Box 441199 **TXT**

LOVING, attractive, dynamic, slim active chap, 62, 6ft6, own hair! WLTM a special lady to share and enjoy life and many interests together. Box 440997 **TXT**

62YR old young looking, active man, 5'6", looking for a sociable lady with a lively personality for companionship and maybe LTR. Box 438982 **TXT** P

HELLO, I'm 65, widowed, 6ft, brown hair, nice-looking! Healthy, active, professional, keen sportsman (in my day!), WLTM gentle, nice, attractive lady to share companionship. Box 439791 **TXT**

NICE, romantic male, 64, semi-retired, N/S, GSOH, enjoys dancing, beach walks, cuddles. WLTM female, 55-65, for friendship, hopefully relationship. Box 188254 **TXT**

PASSIONATE, caring, widowed, 65yr old male, 5'10", medium build, blue-brown eyes, grey hair, likes country/western music, walks, looking for lady, to be my soulmate. Sittingbourne. Box 414929 **TXT**

DECENT, honest man, 67, 5ft6, blue eyes, slim, loves the country-side, seaside walks, 50s music (Sinatra+Elvis!), theatre, history, museums, seeking fun-loving similar woman for mutual happiness. Box 441196 **TXT**

Men for men

GOOD guy, looking for male, 35-50. I'm 40, green eyes, dark hair, average build. I enjoy pubs, music, cinema, dining in/out. Box 436613 **TXT**

GOOD, down2earth guy, 46, green eyes, dark hair, slim, enjoys holidays, music, pubs, eating in & out, looking for a male 35-50 for companionship. Box 441106 **TXT**

ROCHESTER male, kind, genuine, 50yrs, likes steam railways, cooking, country walks, history, reading, looking for that someone special. Box 429211 **TXT**

61YR old easy-going guy, likes reading, the outdoors, keeping fit, looking for a similar, quiet person, N/S, with a positive outlook in life. Box 428136 **TXT**

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28YR old female, long blonde hair, blue eyes, 5ft10, slim, attractive, GSOH, love evenings out/in with wine, seeking similar gent to fall in love with! Box 440218 **TXT**

SINGLE Mum, 39, dark hair/blue eyes, medium build, enjoys pubs, cinemas, eating in/out, DVDs, concerts, WLTM honest, reliable male with GSOH to make me smile. Box 441195 **TXT**

OUTGOING female, 31, tall, skinny, like going out, eating out, socialising, walks, looking for a funny, blond gentleman with good looks for lasting companionship. Maidstone. Box 441023

SLIM lady, 31, 5ft9, shoulder-length dark hair, hazel eyes, loves having fun and meeting new people, enjoys superbikes, music, pubs, socialising with friends, keeping fit. Box 433131 **TXT**

TALL, black, pretty female, 31, new to the Chatham area, loves watching football, shopping, travel; seeking tall, white, loving male 34-47 for LTR. Box 437778 **TXT**

CARING, loving, affectionate female, 30, 5'2", blonde, likes walking, horse riding, animals, seeks affectionate male, 30-40, for lasting, loving relationship. Box 384013 **TXT**

SINGLE mum of 2, 32, WLTM someone kind, caring and considerate, for nights in/out and cinema. Ryan from Whitstable, please call again, leave contact details! Box 406670 **TXT**

ATTRACTIVE female, 31, 5'4", size 12, dark hair with blonde highlights, tactile, WLTM intelligent, professional, attractive guy, for a happy relationship. Tunbridge Wells. Box 308734 **TXT** P

SINGLE girl, hardworking, kind and caring, 32, brown hair/eyes, nice smile, looking to meet similar for lets see how it goes. Box 901072 **TXT** P

ATTRACTIVE black female, 36, 5ft7, slim-medium build, short dark brown hair, brown eyes, single Mum, seeking male 36-40, honest, kind, caring, for potential romance. Box 439329 **TXT**

EASYGOING female with GSOH, 36, enjoys many things - going out, staying in, seeking a nice, genuine guy for lots of love and laughter. Box 437913 **TXT**

LOVELY female, 36, 5ft4, medium-large build, blonde hair, blue eyes, own house, loves walking, going out, the usual! Seeking male for long-term/serious relationship. Box 438102 **TXT**

SINGLE mum of 3, 37, lives in Eastbourne, fun-loving, great to be around, been hurt in the past, heart has been broken and needs mending. . Box 908053 **TXT** P

LOVING female, 36, 5ft4, brown hair, green eyes, likes socialising, staying in, seeks genuine male for friendship and more. Box 428666 **TXT**

BUBBLY, cuddly, blonde single mum, 38, 5'6", likes cars, reading, pubs, cosy nights in, having a laugh, looking for that right male for LTR. Box 905614 **TXT** P

NURSE, 37yrs, 2 kids, 5ft8, blonde hair, blue eyes, likes the gym, cooking, swimming, salsa dancing, looking for a kind, caring, loyal male. Box 431557 **TXT**

ATTRACTIVE 38yr old female, dark brown hair, blue eyes, curvy physique, likes days out, music, concerts, cinema, walking, cycling, seeks loving, fun male, for friendship/relationship. Box 901893 **TXT** P

KIND, caring, spiritual lady, 39, 5'4", average build, hazel puppy-dog eyes, brown hair, looking for genuine, honest guy, non-smoker, friendship first. Box 899694 **TXT** P

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KENT ON SUNDAY

COMMENT

Trust is a success

THE fact that potentially deadly superbug infections have been wiped out at six community hospitals across east Kent is proof of the importance of KOS Media's hand hygiene campaign.

Although the message is simple – wash your hands – it is still essential to help on-going infection control and prevention work in the county's hospitals and health-care centres.

Clostridium difficile, MRSA and other emerging superbugs are continuing challenges facing the NHS – infection rates have dropped significantly across Kent, but we must not get complacent.

Hospital trusts and other NHS organisations in Kent and Medway performed well on the Government's hygiene standards in this week's annual health check declarations.

Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust in particular has been the focus of a lot attention regarding superbugs after the tragic C diff outbreaks.

Using the alcogel in hospitals and health-care centres and washing your hands with soap and water really can help beat the bugs. And don't be afraid to challenge health professionals if you think they have failed to wash their hands between patients.

Birthday thanks

TODAY marks the 300th edition of Kent on Sunday. We would like to take this opportunity to thank our readers and advertisers for their support over the last 300 weeks.

During our short, but successful, history there have been a great many changes in how we provide news to you all on our websites, through all our new midweek titles, groundbreaking e-editions, internet TV and mobile phone service.

We hope you are looking forward to the next 300 editions as much as we are.

OPINION: Actions speak loudest

MP Roger Gale defends fellow Tory David Davis over his stand on the controversial 42-day vote

ON Monday evening the Secretary General of the United Nations, Ban Ki-moon, unveiled the light sculpture Breathing, at the BBC's New Broadcasting House in Langham Place, London, and the BBC's foreign editor, John Simpson, read a specially commissioned poem written by James Fenton.

It was a moving experience.

The monument, designed by the Spanish sculptor Jaume Plensa, stands in the memory of those journalists and their teams of assistants of all nations who have given their lives in the cause of telling to the world truths that others would prefer left untold.

Since January of 2007 there have been 203 such fatalities, not only in Afghanistan and Iraq but around the world.

Freedom of speech runs in tandem with those other liberties defined in statute and by custom in the United Kingdom since Magna Carta and more recently since the enacting of habeas corpus.

The rights to say what we think, to go freely about our lawful business without interference from the State, not to be imprisoned without charge, and fair trial are absolutely fundamental to our democratic way of life.

It is those freedoms that have been placed under increasing threat and it is, most particularly, the right not to be detained without charge and trial and conviction before a jury that has most recently been endangered by this government.

That danger was perceived by my colleague David Davis, as Shadow Home Secretary, to be so acute that he has been prepared to place his own political career and future on the line, resign his parliamentary seat and to seek to take the debate to the people of this country by way of a by-election.

Those who fear his stance have sought to denigrate him. He has been described as vain, ambitious, mad, self-indulgent, as 'grand-standing', making an empty gesture, embarrassing his party.

It is called standing by a principle and it really is as simple as that.

There was no royal row between Davis and David Cameron after the '42-day' vote. As the leader of the Opposition said publicly this was a personal, not a Shadow Cabinet, decision taken by one man in the light of his belief. He was entitled to take that decision and I have said and believe that it was a brave and a right decision taken by a brave man.

Only his wife, Doreen, and his chief of staff, Dominic Raab, knew on the Monday what was in his mind. On the Tuesday, in the Members' tearoom he asked me, at breakfast, if I would be in the House on Thursday. On Thursday, in the same tearoom and on the 'morning after the vote the night before' he said he would ring me.

At 10am he told me of his intentions and that he hoped to make a personal statement in the House at 2pm. In the event, he was denied the right to speak in the chamber and instead made his statement, alone, on the steps of the St Stephens entrance to the House of Commons at 1pm.

Go back to that vote. Promise, cajole, bully and buy. A handful of Labour's rebels settled for what promises they could extract from Gordon Brown and when the result of the vote was announced it was clear that it had been left to the Irish "we did not do a deal" Members of Parliament to bail out a Prime Minister whose reputation will be forever tarnished by this night. It was not the 'democratic' vote, but the manner in which it was achieved, the final straw, that, I believed, pushed David Davis over the edge to the point of resignation.

Think about it. There are plenty who fought in the war and watched comrades lay down their lives in the interests of a greater freedom that cheerfully carried ID cards but do not wish to be compelled, by the State, to do so again.

And there are many, including even those relatives of the victims of terrorism, that understand the need to interrogate terrorist suspects but nevertheless also believe that to surrender our fundamental liberty is to hand those same terrorists victory over our way of life on a plate.

This is the erosion of freedom by a salami-slicing so delicate that it will be long gone, unless we wake up, before we feel the knife.

This is why David Davis has placed his personal conviction far above and beyond any thought of personal ambition or party advantage or consideration of his own future. It is so simple, so straightforward and so uncomplicated that those used to wading through the manure of Westminster do not get it. And it is for that reason that while the commentariat and the vermin of the main chance find themselves wired into phoney opinion polls the Great British Public are responding in droves to a clarion call that has said 'enough'.

Missing the real target

Your stories concerning schools in Kent failing to meet Government targets and facing closure have a predictability about them.

Whether or not one accepts such imposed targets and the associated league tables as either valid or appropriate – and I don't – comparisons can only have value if they compare like with like.

It is manifestly unfair, in a county that retains selection, to expect secondary moderns – or whatever they are now called – to produce results as good as grammar schools. If comparisons between counties need to be made, then the results of the whole population should be used.

Cllr Christine Angell's reference to grammar pupils as "privileged" is risible – the whole purpose of the tripartite system in the 1944 Education Act was to ensure that all pupils, regardless of social or financial circumstances, had access to a free education appropriate to their abilities and aptitudes. Surely Cllr Angell can't be equating privilege with intelligence?

There is much that needs improving in the education system, but incessant tinkering by governments seems to be having little effect, unless one accepts or believes proof by statistics. Certainly, those involved with university admissions seem unimpressed with the claims of continual improvement.

To quote a genuine educational innovator, Bertram Banks, from 1991: "It really is strange that, almost without exception, teachers and those in authority think only of how to improve teachers' teaching and not how to improve children's learning."

And now we are to have a "maths champion" in every primary school …

Dave Stewart, Deal

Grow your own – never mind the hydroponics

I refer to last week's story headlined 'Clearly a growth industry', about the enormous glasshouse project Thanet Earth.

Nothing could be further from the truth, as some of the best soil in Thanet has been replaced with concrete.

I speak with authority on horticultural matters, having entered the trade in 1952. I am also a former delegate for the glasshouse and nursery industry, voluntary lecturer at Hadlow and Wye colleges, and a pioneer, in the late 1950s, of organic growing. Growing hydroponically in a chemical solution and introducing pesticides is not conducive to flavour.

It's all about profit. Such methods can produce in excess of 240 tons of tomatoes from an acre – with bullet-hard skins and totally lacking in flavour. Why don't commercial growers produce in soil? Because yield is much reduced. When I was involved a yield of over 50 tons an acre was exceptional. Tomatoes produced hydroponically, like other glasshouse produce, look appealing but have poor nutritional value and little taste. Yet this has become accepted as the younger generation hasn't enjoyed real flavour.

The home gardener knows the difference, as does the smallholder. Is there any proof? Yes. For years I had a long-running argument with the Advertising Standards Authority, as did the Soil Association. The ASA denied there was any difference in flavour or health benefit. David Miliband, then a Defra minister, also argued there was no benefit. It is now two years since the ASA supported my contentions, after much research. It is a sad reflection on the times that commercial production has gone this way, but, thankfully, women now outnumber men in allotment management. They will benefit from huge savings to the household budget and flavoursome, nutrition-rich food. True natural production does not use insecticides and pesticides. My advice is grow your own – with help and advice from internet TV link-up www.allotmenttv.co.uk – or use your smallholder farmers' market.

Jeremy Shirley,
Victoriana Nursery Gardens, Challock

Political reality check

Phil Reilly writes of the "death of political difference" between the parties and a "new political reality".

May I propound another view? The reality is not to be found in the making or rejection of individual politicians, or even their programmes and manifestos of compromise, but in what the situation is on the ground.

There, it will be found, overshadowing all the arguments about "dragging Labour to the left", or a "rejection of Thatcherism", the reality of the political situation which will be measured by how wealth, power and opportunity are shared. It is most often those things which, in the end, determine the degree to which governments succeed or fail to improve the lives of the governed and which turn-outs at the polls reflect.

Current voting numbers reflect the views of the electorate as to how they can influence future policies to their advantage – even when they do not vote. Lack of enthusiasm for voting does not represent approval.

And where there has been a small increase in opportunities for some, the share of wealth and power for many is regressing and that is not unnoticed by the losers.

This is evidenced by the widening gap in incomes in the UK (let alone other parts of the world) and the accumulating wealth and power of international corporations and cartels which now own much of our industry and infrastructure and its output, and ration them for us in quantity and price – oil, food and energy are current examples.

What refutes the arguments of convergence of political differences is the basic contradiction between the state of those whose labour creates wealth and those who are able to claim that wealth for themselves. That remains the great struggle of our age. Where great wealth increases and much poverty and exploitation continues, and where the financial oligarchs bestride the world and influence politics, political differences will increasingly give rise to confrontation of policy, not

Letters continued on p34

Triennial is a triumph

I write as a Folkestone resident, owner of a business and chairman of the Channel Chamber of Commerce.

I can only describe the Folkestone Triennial as a masterpiece. While I confess to having little knowledge of the arts, I would like to thank all those concerned, who deserve a big pat on the back.

Most of the pieces need time to sink in and it will take patience to fully understand their meaning and the artists' intentions.

I have, regrettably, heard some negative comments. I would ask, however, that all should embrace the excellent opportunity Folkestone has been given. Pick up a map, open your eyes and seek out the treasures.

Also promote this to others, as not only does this benefit the town, but it could also enlighten them, too.

Ray Johnson, Folkestone

YOUR LETTERS

KOS Media welcomes your comments and letters for publication. Please send correspondence to: Letters to the Editor, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SR. Alternatively fax them to: 01303 817002, or email them to editorial@kosmedia.co.uk. Please include your name and address, although these will be withheld in exceptional circumstances. Please also include a daytime telephone number for verification (this will not be published). We reserve the right to edit letters.

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BIRTHS

AHMED
Foysal and Momomtaz are delighted to announce the birth of their beautiful daughter Tasnim Isha on 23rd May 2008 weighing 6lb 11oz, a sister for Anisa.

BURNS
Jon and Tina Burns of Tunbridge Wells proudly announce the birth of their son Jay Burns born 11th June 2008 weighing 6lb 13oz.

CLARKE
Sky Debra Ann born 12th June 2008 to Sam Clarke and Alan Phillips of Whitstable.

COLLINS
Alice Rebecca born on Sunday 8th June 2008, weighing 9lbs 13oz. Daughter to Richard Collins and Kate Lowman of Ashford.

CROCKER
Phoebe Ann born on 20th May 2008, weighing 7lb 6oz. Daughter to Marc and Sarah in Deal. Welcome sister to Cerys and Kaitlyn.

DOWLING
Phil and Emma of Boughton-Under-Blean are delighted to announce the birth of their first child Imogen Carole Millicent. She was born on Tuesday 27th May 2008 weighing 7lb 12oz.

EGGLETON
Amelie Maya born on 29th May 2008, weighing 7lb 10oz. Daughter to Jane and Warren of Maidstone.

ELDRIDGE
Daniel and Claire Eldridge of Paddock Wood are delighted to announce the birth of their third daughter Nula June Eldridge born 15th June 2008 weighing 9lb 1oz.

EMANUEL
To David and Lisa of Whitstable a beautiful daughter, Millie Dora Clare. Millie was born on 27th May 2008 weighing 7lb 13oz.

GARLINGE
Daniel and Rebecca are delighted to announce the birth of their beautiful daughter Elise on 15th May 2008 at 15.05 hours in Pembury Hospital weighing 8lb 1oz.

HANEY
James Francis born on 2nd June 2008 at the Canterbury Birthing Centre, weighing 7lb 13oz. Son to Matt and Mary Haney of Herne Bay, brother for Harry.

HARRIS
Abby and Craig of Ramsgate are delighted to announce the birth of their beautiful daughter Skye Louise, born on 28th May 2008 at QEQM Margate. Our most beautiful and precious daughter.

JONES
Stephen Jones and Helen Kitto are proud to announce the birth of their daughter Martha Eliza born on the 11th June 2008. Sister to Harvey and Oliver.

LAMING
Kalli Maia born on 23rd May 2008, weighing 7lb 5oz. Daughter to Brian and Caroline in Margate.

LUNN
Alfie James Lunn born on 12th June 2008, weighing 8lb 13oz. Son to Richard and Tanya Lunn and brother to Ella Mae Lunn of Kings Hill.

MACLAURIN
Holly May MacLaurin born on 1st June 2008, weighing 7lb 10oz. Daughter to Matthew and Tabitha, sister to Madison and Meadow.

McGOVARIN
To David and Donna of Herne Bay a beautiful daughter, Amber Louise Anne, born on 27th May 2008.A new baby sister for Ben and Grace.

SMITH
Claire and Paul of Ramsgate are delighted to announce the birth of their beautiful daughter Alicia Katina Ann, born on 25th May 2008 at QEQM, Margate. Our most beautiful and precious daughter.

STONE
Charlie Lewis born on 9th June 2008 at the William Harvey Hospital, weighing 10lbs 12oz. Son to Gavin Stone and Gemma Hardwick of Ashford, brother for Taylor Stone.

THOMPSON
To Pete and Michele of Herne Bay, a beautiful daughter Jessica Lee, born on 30th May 2008 weighing 6Ib 11oz.

WARE
Jacob George born on 28th May 2008, weighing 8lb 4oz. Son to James and Anneliese of Maidstone.

WARING
Phyllis Waring died on the 15th June 2008 after a long illness aged 88yrs. Funeral to be held at Vinters Park Crematorium on 23rd June at 2.45pm. Enquiries to Doves of Maidstone.

WONNACOTT
Mark and Kirsty and proud to announce the birth of their beautiful daughter Lexie Rose Margaret born on 5th June 2008 weighing 7lb 11oz. at Darent Valley Hospital. Lots of love Mummy and Daddy and big sister Kleo xx.

DEATHS

BEDFORD
Lesley Ann Bedford of Bearsted passed away peacefully after a long illness on 13th June 2008, aged 53.

BRIGHAM
Francesca Brigham of Wingham died peacefully on 9th June 2008.A much loved mother and grandmother who will be very sadly missed.The funeral was held on 18th June at St Marys Church, Wingham.

MOLLOY
Mark Ernst Molloy passed away peacefully on the 9th June 2008 at Darent Valley Hospital. He will be sadly missed by all his family and friends.

MOORE
Margaret Elizabeth Moore of Tonbridge passed away peacefully on 15th June 2008.

ROGERS
Margaret Grace passed away peacefully on 14th June 2008, aged 69, after a long illness. Will be sadly missed by her husband, family and friends.

WATTS
Stanley George Watts of Headcorn. Passed away on 15th June 2008 at Maidstone Hospital. Will be sadly missed by all who knew him.

WHITE
Lesley Rebecca White nee Sillett sadly passed away peacefully at home on 12th June. She will be greatly missed by her Mum and Dad and Mark, Laura, Danielle and Matthew. Funeral to be held at Medway Crematorium on 25th June 11.20am. Donations only please to West Kent Primary Care Trust or the Ellenor Foundation c/o Lewis Solomon 01474 352261.

Letters continued from p33

necessarily by voting.

Our political parties are heirs to the fallout of battles past and they often quarrel about who is entitled to the spoils. The protagonists, whether compassionate conservatives or labour social-engineers, each claim to have rearranged a little of the share of wealth and opportunity. However, the often unrevealed struggle for power is still between the haves and the have-nots and that will continue to determine the future shape of political parties and their political differences.

Leslie Turner, Maidstone

Nothing personal, Phil

In response to Phil Reilly's Personality Contest opinion piece: for years I have heard that "old Labour" has gone, never to re-emerge.

He obviously forgot about the four-day strike by petrol tanker drivers. The old issue of capital and labour has not gone away and while that remains the cause of labour will be here to stay.

We are living in a changing and increasing dangerous world, witnessing food riots on three continents, oil shortages and the consequences of laissez-faire capitalism as the US sub-prime mortgage crisis induces a severe credit crunch internationally.

Add to this pot of misery the increasing and bitter reckoning that climate change will bring to all our lives. The UN report on the environment for 2007 lays out some disturbing predictions, such as mass migration on a 'biblical' scale, and the increasing likelihood of "resource wars".

These are issues and challenges that no clever packaging or presentation from the likes of David Cameron can skirt over. They will mean an obvious course of management, allocation and sharing of resources, goods and services. In essence, the kind of solution socialists have been espousing for years and which is anathema to the Tories, who want to cut taxes and services in the face of climate change and economic hardship.

We are at a crossroads. At the next election, will we vote for a capitalist system that has driven humanity to this point? Or will people look into the eyes of their children and hope Labour recovers its soul?

I am not holding my breath, but will support a party that understands the concept of intervention, co-operation and social justice.

Personality contest? No. Politics is more important than that, because it is now about our very existence. A philosopher once said: "It is either socialism or barbarianism."

If David Cameron walks into Number 10, the latter choice will have been made.

Rob Halpin

KCC profits benefit all

In response to Mr Randall's letter last week, I would like to reassure him that KCC's commercial activities make financial sense and are very much in the interest of the public.

We have a legal responsibility to get the best deal for the taxpayer and that is exactly what we are striving to do.

Yes, we have invested in our temp agency, and we have seen a 50 per cent return on that investment in just a year. That profit has allowed us to help keep council tax increases down.

The handful of services KCC provides directly is less than one per cent of its total spend with the private sector, and is much much less than 10 or 15 years ago when many more council services were provided in-house – restricting opportunities for private business to engage.

Cllr Paul Carter, leader, Kent County Council

Resigned to hyperbole

In a week when five British soldiers were killed in Afghanistan, it was inappropriate for Thanet MP Roger Gale, in a BBC radio interview, to describe the resignation of his colleague David Davis as "brave and courageous".

The young men and women who risk their lives daily in war zones can truly be called brave and courageous. An MP who resigns is merely risking a seat in the Commons and as Mr Davis is almost certain to be re-elected, his is a very small risk.

We seem to be losing all sense of proportion. In a national newspaper column, football pundit David Pleat referred to England's non-participation in Euro 2008 as "tragic".

Tragedy and bravery are a daily occurrence in Iraq and Afghanistan. In comparison, events at Westminster and on the sports field are of very little consequence.

Robert Muir, Westgate-on-Sea

No to loss of freedom

The Irish no vote should have been the end of the EU constitution, but no, this corrupt, unelected body answers to no-one – not even our own gutless Government, and no-one is more gutless than Prime Minister Gordon Brown.

The whole country is against him, it's just he doesn't see. This Government goes from bad to worse. What they are doing is not on my behalf.

We want to stay free. Our freedom is being given away and it seems the Labour party is in denial. What part of 'no' don't they understand? Come on, MPs from all parties, put your country first – don't sign away any more power or freedom.

Trevor Shonk, Ramsgate, UKIP parliamentary candidate

Punish bad parents

I was concerned by the story headined 'Selection at fault for missed targets' – and so it may be, to some extent. (I myself failed the 11-plus, but still got into university).

You mention there are 33 failing schools in Kent, but are the schools and KCC entirely to blame, or is the problem partly due to failing parents?

Could it be there is a growing minority of parents who can't be bothered to control their kids or bring them up to learn, who disrupt lessons for those who do want to learn?

How do you get a failing school? Could it be a school with a catchment area that happens to include a higher than average percentage of bad parents? The school, therefore, gets a higher than average proportion of unruly yobs and, hey presto, a failing school. The chances are, that even in the failing schools the majority of parents and kids are all right but the louts form a significant enough minority to disrupt lessons.

Why should there be more bad parents today? When I was young, in the 1950s, parents didn't have a lot else to do but bring up their children.

There were no computers, video games or stereos, few people had TV, and parents had a lot less money for going out. Over the years, with new entertainment and more wealth, a growing minority has chosen to do other things rather than control their kids or find constructive interests and hobbies for them.

Consequently, we have disruptive kids in schools, antisocial behaviour and juvenile crime. Bad parenting isn't the only factor, but it is one of the most important. Has the time now come to punish bad parents?

Marc Hurstfield, Northfleet

Riding the gravy train

I totally agree with Doug Cheverst about those who are happy to blindly go into an EU superstate with no knowledge of how it operates and its final aims.

There have been much publicised cases of cancer patients being refused treatment due to cost. Then you read that an MEP has siphoned £400,000 of EU expenses into his own company and another has put £758,000 into his wife's company. All perfectly within the rules, they say. Some rules! And these are only the cases we know about, and quite apart from the huge sums taken by MPs in our own Parliament. No wonder so few of them want an EU referendum, it might upset the gravy train.

How these greedy, selfish people have the nerve to grab all they can while telling others they will just have to die is beyond me. They are a disgrace and rely on apathy and ignorance.

Phil Granger, West Malling

The numbers game

In the controversy about GCSE pass rates in Kent schools, we must not forget that politicians are, in general, a fairly innumerate bunch.

They also seem incapable of understanding anything at a level deeper than the simplistic. When considering the overall performance of Kent's schools, the only fair thing to do is look at the examination success over the school population as a whole, grammar schools plus secondary schools.

I haven't seen an overall figure, but I suspect the percentage of children getting the required number of GCSEs in Kent will be similar to that in counties without selection at 11-plus.

In Kent's case, the grammar schools are likely to have very high percentages, while the secondary schools will have low percentages. It's not rocket science. Just as it isn't possible to make butter from skimmed milk, so it's not likely that secondary schools will gave high GCSE pass rates if the most able pupils have been removed at the 11-plus stage. I do wish politicians wouldn't treat us like idiots.

Michael K Baldwin, Sittingbourne

Who wants polyclinics?

I haven't heard anyone talk in favour of polyclinics, but I do know that a lot of the elderly and infirm are fearful that their local surgery is going to be closed in the near future. Even GPs have attacked this proposal.

The trouble is this Government doesn't care about people in the real world and the decision will go ahead regardless of how

many protests and petitions there are.

This was proved when police stations and hospitals were proposed for closure

The public opposed it and they went ahead regardless. Post offices, in many cases at the very heart of the community, were closed despite much public opposition, our own local branch included, despite a good few thousand signatures.

The Government and politicians have become so egotistical and power-mad that they don't feel what the public want matters any more.

Fighting our corner is all very half-hearted and purely for show, because they know the decisions have already been approved. And let's face it, polyclinics won't affect them, with their private health cover, like it will the majority of people.

D Ramkin, Bexleyheath

Trust's brighter picture

I am sure many readers will be disappointed by the Healthcare Commission report which indicates that the hospitals in Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust are still performing relatively poorly against a range of performance standards, including cleanliness.

In fact, the real picture is much brighter than the report seems to show.

Anyone who has visited our hospitals in recent months will have seen for themselves that our standards of cleanliness are now among the best in the NHS, as is our success in driving down infection rates.

C difficile, for example, is down by 34 per cent in 2007-08 and is still falling. MRSA rates are down by 41 per cent.

The reason we came out so poorly in our own self assessment – which the commission has just published, along with all the other trusts – is that we know we have been working much better for our patients in the past few months but we were not consistently improving much before that.

The report is for the year as a whole, from March 2007 to April 2008, so according to the rules we had to assess our overall performance as poor.

We now spend £1 million a year more on cleaning than we did two years ago, and our hospitals are cleaner and more hygienic than they have ever been. Cleaners work 24 hours a day, and at Maidstone Hospital we have a rapid response cleaning team who deal immediately with any problems.

Your readers know that we have been through a very difficult period and deep seated problems cannot be put right overnight. But we have a new management team under my leadership and there is a new spirit of confidence in the trust.

We know that we can and will provide the level and quality of services we want to offer, and that our patients demand.

So here's to a much better report next year, reflecting the real and lasting improvements which I know we are making now.

Glenn Douglas, chief executive, Maidstone and Tunbridge Wells NHS Trust

Pupils are being failed

Janice Small urges Ed Balls to "get to grips with the failing schools". I suspect Mr Balls has at last acknowledged that 50 years of strenuous effort by KCC and governments of both parties have failed to raise standards in the lowest performing schools in Kent.

The Government has been more successful in areas without grammar schools and least successful in areas with the 11-plus.

What is a failing school? There is a school near where I live that gets fantastic GCSE results compared with what was predicted of its pupils when they entered the school at 11.

Its 'value added' is very high. Despite this, in Mr Balls' view it is a failing school with GCSE results way below the 30 per cent minimum standard he is demanding. So is he plain wrong? Not entirely.

Parents are entitled to demand a minimum standard of that school. If a child failed the 11-plus by a few marks, it is unacceptable that the child be forced to attend a school where there is only a handful of children of comparable ability.

In such schools there will be almost no peer pressure to succeed.

One day, and the sooner the better, we will have to face the fact that selection does more harm than good. The 11-plus ensures most of the upward peer pressure gets concentrated in a few schools.

These schools do well but this does not mean they are good schools. Concentrating downward peer pressure in other schools means they do badly, but does not mean they are bad schools. Mr Balls is wrong to say such schools are failing, but right to say they fall below an acceptable minimum standard.

They have tried every which way to solve this conundrum for 50 years. The only way that will work is to stop the 11-plus.

Martin Frey, STEP (Stop The Eleven Plus), Appledore

Prescribing fairness

I am writing to back Macmillan Cancer Support's campaign for free prescriptions in England.

No-one should be in a position where they can't afford to pay for their prescriptions, yet for one in 10 cancer patients aged 55 and under who has to pay for their prescriptions, this is exactly what happens.

The Government is due to publish a consultation to review prescription charges soon, but has already said it is not prepared to spend one extra penny on prescriptions. This means any reform will inevitably involve some patients losing out – robbing Peter to pay Paul.

I am extremely concerned that this consultation will be nothing more than tinkering with an inherently unfair system and call on the Government to make prescriptions free in England.

Graham Simpson, Sandwich

Kent Highway Services

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For all our Traffic Regulation Orders, please go to page **56**.

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Where would we be without volunteers?

By **JENNA PUDELEK**
jenna.pudelek@kosmedia.co.uk

THE benefits of volunteering have been celebrated and explored by students and staff at a Kent university.

National Volunteers Week, which was held at the beginning of this month, was marked with a series of events highlighting the work of people who give their time free of charge to help good causes at the University of Greenwich at Medway.

Adeyemi Oyewole has been carrying out volunteer work on warships dating from World War Two, at Chatham's Historic Dockyard.

He said: "My final-year project is actually on building a steam engine and the naval ship I have been working on is based on the principle of a steam turbine, so it helped me.

"This experience has enabled me to give something back to the community and has also given me the opportunity to work with ex-servicemen from the RAF and Royal Navy.

"Volunteering is not just for young people – some of these men are over 70."

Mr Oyewole's volunteering was featured in a Hall of Fame exhibition at the university to display the details of the students' philanthropic work.

Students and their tutors have been involved in conservation projects, carrying out repair and maintenance work at Capstone Park in Chatham as wells as working with the Kent Wildlife Trust.

Tim Barry, who works in the university's business school, has helped set up an 'adopt a beach' initiative. The scheme involves Shepway District Council, the Harbourmaster and the Marine Conservation Society working in partnership to run conservation events on Folkestone's beaches and carry out regular clean-ups.

He said: "Folkestone's beach is its best natural asset enjoyed by residents and people from further away.

"The aim of the project is to involve the community, University Centre Folkestone students and University of Greenwich staff and students in keeping it clear of rubbish."

Sarah Sunderland, the university's volunteering administrator, said volunteering was a good way of picking up important life skills.

She added: "We are delighted to be able to recognise the endless good work our staff and students participate in through the Hall of Fame display.

"University isn't just about gaining qualifications, it is also about learning life skills and sampling new experiences and volunteering is a great way to get out and about and make a difference in the community."

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Fun and folics on new course

A TRAINING school at Chatham is opening its doors in the school summer holidays to youngsters aged 11-15 who want to gain some expertise and even start on the path to a career in hair styling or beauty.

The Hair & Beauty Training School, based in the Admiral's Offices at the Historic Dockyard in Chatham, is running a hands-on and fun series of five-day courses designed to teach young people the basics of hair design and beauty therapy.

Students can choose a Monday-Friday course or they can attend every Saturday or Sunday for five weeks.

On the final day, students will be able to perform their newly-acquired skills on mum or a friend as a special treat.

• ***For more details and to book places, contact Jenny at 01634 222128, or emailinfo@bridalhairand beauty.com.***

Baroness backs scheme to help women reach their potential

THE LATEST phase of a programme designed to help women climb the career ladder in the South East fashion and textiles industry has been welcomed by Baroness Prosser, deputy chair of the Equality and Human Rights Commission (EHRC).

She says it will help boost the skills and confidence of female employees in the sector.

The Women and Work Sector Pathways Programme is a Government-funded scheme that aims to give women new skills, so they can progress in their career.

Baroness Prosser said: "Gender should not stand in the way of a successful career.

"The Women and Work funding is a great boost for employers and female employees, enabling them to plan their career progression and fulfil their potential."

Skillfast-UK, the Sector Skills Council for fashion and textiles, is running the Women and Work scheme for the fashion and textiles industry in the South East.

Employees who take part must belong to a registered company employing less than 5,000 people.

Following an analysis of training needs, employers will be able to access funding to cover 75 per cent of any training women employees undertake – up to £500 per employee.

Skillfast-UK's team will be able to match each individual with an appropriate training provider and even organise training if required.

• ***Anyone interested in joining the programme can go to www.skillfast-uk.org/employers and click on the link to Women and Work.***

ADVERTISER'S ANNOUNCEMENT

Summer is coming to Lakeside

A visit to Lakeside Shopping Centre this summer is sure to leave a lasting impression. With a whole host of stylish new stores and a fantastic array of restaurants on The Boardwalk, it's a great place to spend a day out with friends and family

Lakeside

We're all going on

Summer has arrived, you've booked your flights and you're off on a well-deserved holiday. But holiday packing can be tricky. What should you take in your suitcase and what should you leave at home? Here **ANGELA POPLETT**, Lakeside's Personal Shopper, offers her tips for summer holiday essentials...

GIRLS, GIRLS, GIRLS...

MY golden rule for holiday wardrobes is 'keep it simple'. You don't need ten pairs of shoes for a week-long holiday.

Go for one pair of heels for the evening, flats or ballet pumps for sightseeing and a pair of flip flops for round the pool.

Save on packing and avoid the need to colour co-ordinate everything in your wardrobe by taking metallic, neutral or tan colour shoes, as these will go with everything – Lakeside's new Moda In Pelle store has a fantastic selection.

The same rule applies with accessories – try and stick to just one clutch bag for evening and one beach bag that goes with a range of bikinis or swimming costumes.

Neutral colours are far more complimentary, a black bag next to pale white skin at the start of your holiday isn't the best look.

Lightweight jeans, linen trousers and a denim skirt should be about all you need in the way of 'bottoms'. Then you can pair them with a range of pretty camisole tops for the evening.

Summer dresses are big news again this season and there's heaps of choice in the stores. Wear them with flip-flops and a beach bag in the day, then take them into the night by adding some heels and jewellery for extra sparkle.

Swimwear is of course the biggest must-have, but make sure you go for something that suits your body shape.

If you're on the shorter side, stick to high-leg bikini bottoms to lengthen your legs and if you have a big chest, invest in a good-quality bikini and make sure you get one that is correctly sized.

My other absolute holiday must-have is a kaftan, which is incredibly versatile and can be dressed up or down – particularly if you go for one made from silk or jersey.

Monsoon, at Lakeside, has a fantastic selection of kaftans that can be worn over a bikini as a beach cover-up or with jeans and heels for sunset cocktails.

BOYS, BOYS, BOYS...

THE same rules apply for guys, but we all know you won't read pages and pages of fashion advice so here's my checklist for the slickest holiday suitcase around:

- Linen shirts – don't worry if they crease, they're supposed to!
- Khaki or neutral colour combat shorts or trousers
- Rough-and-ready surfer-style shorts
- Lots of different colour shirts or T-shirts for evening – brighter colours look great with a tan
- Leather tan or chocolate-coloured flip-flops
- Sunglasses – to deflect the admiring glances you're sure to get if you follow my advice.

Angela's pick of the best summer fashions...

Head down to Lakeside to stock up on great summer wardrobe essentials for all the family.

Here's my pick of the best....

1
- White T-shirt, £40, Ted Baker at House of Fraser
- Green vest, £6, and khaki mesh scarf, £12, both Topman
- Beige utility shorts, £40, Ben Sherman
- Brown leather sandals, £35, Dune

2
- Sunglasses, £99, Ray-Ban at Sunglass Hut
- Grey and blue striped T-shirt, £25, French Connection
- Blue-striped V-neck sweater, £40, French Connection
- White trousers, £75 Polo Ralph Lauren at House of Fraser
- White flip-flops, £13, Duffer at Sole Trader

a summer holiday

Hers

1. Sheer blouse, £15, New Look
2. Printed camisole, £75, Coast
3. Sundress, £30, Topshop
4. Kinn wedges, £85, Dune
5. Denim jacket, £39.99, River Island

Kids

1. Checked dress set, £13-£14 Next
2. Stripey vest romper and hat, £7-£8 Next
3. Lizard Friend T-shirt, £7-£8, denim shorts, £9-10, both Little Rocha at Debenhams

dedicated personal shopping

If you want some help picking an outfit for a special summer occasion, a full image overhaul, or just hints and tips on how to make the season's hottest styles work for you, Lakeside's dedicated Personal Shopper service is the answer. With more than 15 years experience, Lakeside's resident style guru, Angela Poplett, uses her fashion savvy to offer the ultimate in Personal Shopping packages. Angela provides a range of sessions and clinics to suit different budgets and requirements. Just call 01708 869933 or email personal-shopper@capshop.co.uk for more information.

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FANCY SOMETHING SWEET?

Wining and dining away the summer

The Boardwalk at Lakeside is the latest (and best) addition to the region's busy restaurant scene

WHETHER you're planning cocktails with friends, a family lunch or a romantic dinner à deux, there's only place to go – The Boardwalk at Lakeside.

With 12 new restaurants and bars, and a brand new nine-screen Vue Cinema, The Boardwalk offers a superb choice of food, drink and entertainment, day and night, right at the heart of the centre.

For breakfast, coffee, lunch, dinner or drinks, there's an amazing variety of tastes from around the world just waiting to tempt you.

And if you want to enjoy your meal alfresco, The Boardwalk offers a beautiful spot overlooking the lake, where you can while away the summer evenings.

Good For... Couples

- Strada – a stylish and intimate restaurant providing authentic Italian dishes including pasta, pizza and risotto, made using fresh seasonal ingredients.
- Café Rouge – offering classic French cuisine, from Continental croissants for breakfast through to mussels and steak frites in the evening.
- Bella Italia – with a menu ranging from pizza and pasta to grill and speciality dishes, there's a little taste of Italy for everyone.

Good For... Friends

- La Tasca – a sumptuous selection of Spanish tapas treats and paellas, served in a Mediterranean atmosphere.
- Las Iguanas – A stylish Latin-American restaurant and the perfect place to spend a night with friends nibbling on Brazilian tapas, tortillas, fajitas and nachos, washed down with some classic cocktails.
- Old Orleans – blending Cajun, Creole, French, Italian and West Indian flavours in a range of stunning dishes made to authentic recipes.
- Spur Steak and Grill House – serving the best quality steaks and grills along with delicious side dishes.

Good For... Families

- Gourmet Burger Kitchen – made only from the best ingredients, GBK's burgers really are something special, with both classic combinations and exciting new flavours on the menu.
- Wagamama – a great place to go for quick and tasty Japanese dishes, from fresh noodles to spicy stir fries.
- Giraffe – delicious, wholesome and healthy food from all over the world, in a fresh and funky setting with family-friendly service.
- Nandos – serving Portuguese-style flame-grilled Peri Peri chicken, with added spice for those who like it hot.
- Hannah Banana – a unique restaurant that not only provides healthy and organic food but will also keep the kids amused for hours with a range of fantastic entertainment.

WIN DINNER FOR FOUR AT THE BOARDWALK

If you like the look of what you see, Lakeside is offering one lucky winner the chance to enjoy a meal for four at The Boardwalk up to the value of £200.

For the chance to win dinner at any one of the fantastic restaurants, just answer the following simple question and send your answers to: KOS Media Boardwalk Competition, Lakeside Centre Management. West Thurrock Way, Grays, Essex RM20 2ZP or log on at www.lakeside.uk/summer to enter.

How many restaurants are there on The Boardwalk? Is it...
a) 120
b) 12

• Terms and conditions: 1) Deadline for entries is July 20, 2008. 2) The prize is for one £200 Lakeside Gift Card 3) Dates subject to availability 4) Prize is not transferable.

Throughout the summer The Boardwalk will be hosting a whole programme of events, from jazz evenings to children's entertainers. Keep an eye on the website www.lakeside.uk.com for more details.

SEASONAL SUGGESTION

Penne Fresco

WHY not try this fresh and flavourful summer dish from Bella Italia – a tasty combination of goat's cheese, cherry tomatoes, fresh spinach and olive oil sauteed with penne pasta and topped with toasted pine nuts.

Serves two

Ingredients:
- 250g Penne pasta
- 200g Cherry tomatoes (cut in half)
- 100g Fresh spinach leaves
- 3cl Extra virgin olive oil
- 120g Diced goat's cheese
- 20g Pine nuts
- Pinch salt and pepper for seasoning
- 25g table salt

Method:
- Wash and drain the fresh spinach leaves and cherry tomatoes
- Lightly toast the pine nuts on a baking tray under a moderate grill for 2-3 minutes, checking continuously
- Bring 2.5l of water to the boil, add 50g of salt (1 dessert spoon)
- Cook pasta for as long as indicated on the packet (usually about 11 minutes)
- Once the pasta is a minute or two from being ready, heat the olive oil in a pan gently and add the halved cherry tomatoes
- Drain the pasta and put to one side
- Pan-fry the tomatoes for 1-2 minutes moving them continuously
- Add the pasta, diced goat's cheese and spinach
- Toss together and transfer to a clean warm pasta bowl
- Garnish with the toasted pine nuts
- Sprinkle with black pepper and Parmesan cheese

Lakeside

1 Apple Ipod
What can beat an afternoon on the beach listening to your favourite tracks on your very own iPod nano, £129. Take a trip to Lakeside's new Apple store which offers more gadgets that can you imagine

2 DAB radio
Pump out some funky summer tunes with this sleek Vita Audio DAB radio, £129.99 from Tec7 at House of Fraser

Gadgets on the go...

There's heaps of great new gadgets out at the moment that aren't just for techno-geeks. And lots of them are so portable and light you can take them with you on your summer adventures.

3 Sony photo printer
Don't leave your holiday snaps stuck on your digital camera for nobody to see. Print them out with this quick and easy to use Sony Printer – a great way of reminding you of summer hols. From £119 at The Sony Centre

Here comes the summer

Don't let your wardrobe be the only thing that gets a new season update

Whether you're a beauty queen, a gadget aficionado or an home body, you can find all of the latest summer must-haves at Lakeside Shopping Centre, with more than 280 stores under one roof...

1 Bucket barbecue
Hold impromptu gatherings or have barbecues on the go with this fab Bucket Barbecue, £7.99 from Woolworths

2 Berry twig ball topiary tree
Make yours the most stylish patio on the street with this funky Berry twig ball topiary tree, £25 from Debenhams

3 Picnic chair
Picnics and summer festivals wouldn't be complete without a cool and comfy chair like this spotty one, £9.99 from Robert Dyas

4 Tea light lantern
Just because the sun's gone down doesn't mean you can't enjoy the outdoors. Use this pretty tea light lantern, £5 from M&S to light the way

Alfresco living...

MAKE the most of lazy sunny afternoons and long summer evenings while the weather is nice. Update your outside area with a selection of the best garden accessories.

5 Feet
Summer is THE time to make sure feet are looking sexy when you slip into open-toe shoes or sandals. Keep them looking gorgeous with Origins Sole Searcher, £16.50

6 Face
Lighten up your summer make-up and choose barely there nude shades with a hint of sun-kissed shimmer. We love this Clarins Sun Palette, £25

For beauty queens...

Make sure you're bikini confident with a fantastic selection of lotions and potions, for instant beautification from head to toe.

7 Hair
Too many dips in the pool or sea can leave hair a little dry and lacklustre – inject moisture back with Charles Worthington Dream Hair Intensive Conditioner, £5.99

8 Skin
Make sure your skin is silky smooth and cellulite free with Garnier Skin Naturals Anti-Cellulite Rollerball, £5.99

struggling for gift inspiration?

To make life easier when picking gifts for loved ones, Lakeside offers a Lakeside gift card or gift vouchers, allowing that special someone to pick out exactly what they want. Available at the customer information desks on levels one and two, the gift card can be credited with any amount – up to £1,000, while the vouchers come in £5, £10 and £25 denominations. Either one will enable your family and friends to choose the ideal gift from any one of Lakeside's 280 stores, or even treat themselves to a meal on The Boardwalk instead.

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(Children's Home)

We are looking for people who want to make a difference and join our existing dedicated staff teams caring for disadvantaged children

Experience preferred but not essential as full on-going training will be given.

Shift pattern including weekends and sleep-ins.

Salary subject to experience.

Contact: Stephen Payne
St Nicholas Lodge, 16 Hawley Square,
Margate, Kent CT9 5JS.
01843 232321
Stephen@stnicholaslodge.com

St Nicholas

Dover District Carers' Support

PROJECT WORKER

POST: 37.5 HRS PER WEEK
(part-time considered for the right applicant)
Starting salary: in the region of £17,500

We are an organisation, funded in part by Social Services, which gives support, advice and information to those over the age of 18 who care (unpaid) for a relative or friend.

We are looking for a sensitive, confident and articulate person. The work is mainly office-based. It is a busy and demanding role, with opportunities to develop skills, to be involved in new projects and to champion the role of Carers. Our core work is telephone support, which will include liaising with statutory and non-statutory bodies.

Full driving licence and own transport essential.

For an application pack, please write to
**The Manager, Tricia Cole, DDCS,
10 Victoria Road, Deal CT14 7AP.**

Closing date for completed applications:
Monday 30 June 2008

N.B. This is not a care-worker post.
Registered Charity No. 1097782

To advertise in this section
01303 817040

Sports Pavilion Supervisor Cleaner

required 6 days (incl. w/e)
15/18hrs per wk
from 7.30am

Contact Brian 01795 564212
UK Paper Leisure Club

Cleaner required for the **Broadstairs area,** excellent rates of pay apply, key holding job, **immediate start**.

Please call Jo on **020 8693 4324**

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We need **Party Planners/Managers,** in your area. For fun, flexible work and great earning opportunities.
Call Clare Williams (Area Manager) on
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Thanet Canterbury Herne Bay Whitstable
Swale Dover Deal Folkestone

- Excellent rates of pay
- Flexible working hours
- Free training
- Free uniform

call **01227 265899** opt 3

info@allseasons.org.uk www.allseasons.org.uk

All Seasons is part of Enterprising Opportunities CIC in partnership with Canterbury and District Enterprise Trust (CADET), a registered charity. Registered Co. no. 6136838

Integrated Services Programme: Independent Provider of Children's Services

TUTOR/ TEACHERS WANTED

ISP school and education provision are seeking qualified tutors to work on a self employed basis, term time only. We have centres at Whitstable, Teynham and Rainham where tutors work 1:1 with students whose age range is from 7 to 16. All students are looked after children who are not in mainstream education for various reasons.

ISP SCHOOL SITTINGBOURNE
TEACHING ASSISTANT

Salary Scale: £13636 - £16819 plus benefits

We are looking for a Teaching Assistant to support looked after children in an EBD school setting of small classes. All students are not in mainstream school for a variety of reasons. Hours are 8.30 am to 4.30 pm term time only

Experience of working with Special Educational Needs students in age ranges 7 - 16 is an advantage but all life experiences considered.

For application packs and to register an interest please contact Sharon Cahill, HR Administrator on 01795 428097 or email Sharon.cahill@ispchildcare.org.uk

For informal discussion contact Toni Reedman or John Stevens on Tel: 01795 422044

Closing date for applications: 4th July, 2008

The successful applicants will be subject to enhanced CRB checks

All applicants must be committed to achieving and promoting equal opportunities in the workplace.

For more information about ISP go to
www.ispchildcare.org.uk

Kings Recruitment Consultant

(training will be given)

The primary focus of this job is to support your client's recruitment decisions. This will include marketing their vacancies, interviewing candidates, short listing suitable applicants and preparing CV's for your clients.

Established over 19 years – **Standards at Kings are very high** – we need outstanding communication skills, excellent PC knowledge, good English and written Grammar and a positive 'can do' attitude.

From our **Welling office** you will be speaking with your clients regularly and attending meetings in London as required, building on existing business by working closely with your clients, developing rapport to ensure they know the best choice for all their recruitment is Kings.

If you have a high level of personal presentation, professional and ethical business standards and have worked in a client care driven **corporate environment**, apply today.

Send your CV and covering letter to: **clive.wood@kingsrecruitment.co.uk**

Or call us on **020 8303 2525**

AEM

AEM, with its head office at Stansted Airport, is a subsidiary of the American corporation AMETEK Inc. As part of AMETEK's Aerospace & Defense Division, AEM is one of the largest independent accessory maintenance facilities in Europe. Our Ramsgate site is a long-established aircraft component repair and overhaul facility and due to our expansion we need another experienced

UNIVERSAL GRINDER

capable of working to high aviation standards in our Machine Workshops as a member of a busy team. Experience of cylindrical and surface grinding is essential and experience with internal and planetary grinding would be an advantage. A recognised apprenticeship in a machining discipline would be desirable. Salary around £19,600 p.a.

If you are looking to join a successful aviation business, we would like to hear from you.

This position offers 25 days annual holiday and membership of the company pension scheme.

Please send your CV with current salary details to Mr Paul Ruprecht, Operations Manager, AEM Limited, Wilton Road, Ramsgate, Kent, CT12 5HE or e-mail to paul.ruprecht@ametek.co.uk.

Closing date 30th June 2008.

Operating in the drug & alcohol and mental health sectors, KCA (UK) provides a wide range of high quality and innovative specialist services for adults and young people.

K·C·A Services in the Community

REF: 490 - YOUNG PERSONS' DRUG AND ALCOHOL WORKER
DUAL DIAGNOSIS PROJECT – THANET

Salary £21,412 – £26,835 pro rata (SCP 26 – 33)
30 hours per week

Fixed Term until 31st March 2009

KCA Young Persons' Drug and Alcohol Service provides specialist drug and alcohol services for young people aged 10 – 18, their parents / carers and other agencies. We have been commissioned for a second year to work within an exciting project targeting young offenders who present with both substance misuse and mental health needs. The project works very closely with the local Youth Offending Team and Child and Adolescent Mental Health Services.

We require an experienced worker to offer intensive packages of community support to both young people and their families/carers/support networks. The emphasis will be on developing creative multi-agency interventions and care packages with which to engage these groups.

You must have significant experience of working with young offenders and / or substance misuse. Relevant professional training is essential.

Should you wish to discuss this role informally please contact Sarah Mills on (01227) 456744.

For application forms contact: KCA, Dan House, 44 East Street, Faversham, Kent ME13 8AT.
Tel: 01795 590635, Fax: 01795 539351
Email recruitment@kca.org.uk, website www.kca.org.uk.
Closing date: Friday 27th June 2008
Interview date: TBC

KCA (UK) is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity for all and welcomes applications from people with experience of substance use or who have had previous problems with substance misuse.

Charity no: 292824

BOOKKEEPER

We require a bookkeeper at our Head Office in Margate. You will be responsible for all normal bookkeeping duties such as Purchase/ Sales Ledger, monthly wages using Iris, Sage Instant version 10, bank reconciliations. Hours possible to suit, wages subject to experience.

For further details contact:
Stephen Payne MD
St Nicholas Lodge UK Limited
16 Hawley Square, Margate
Kent CT9 5JS
Tel: 01843 232321

G & J Engineering Ltd

We have an imminent 16 week contract in the Kent area & require the following tradesmen preferably experience in the gas industry.

Mechanical
- P2 /P9 welders
- Pipefitters

Civil
- Ground Workers
- Excavator / Dumper Drivers

Rates of pay negotiable

Contact: Tony Short on *029 2045 2027*

LGV Class One Drivers

required for fixed term contract based in Mereworth beginning 1.7.08. Estimated contract duration is 4 months for grain haulage all day work. Good rates of pay with overtime available Mon - Fri. Minimum 2 years driving experience with digi card.

Please call
01179 679031
Petrochemical Drivers

A2 CABS LTD

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- **Escorts for School Children**
- **Experienced Radio Operators**

Please contact
Elaine
01795 431500
(Sittingbourne)

Upton House

Near Sandwich
Require a

Care Assistant

Hours to be arranged

NVQ 2 or equivalent desirable but not essential as training will be given.

Please call on
01304 611312

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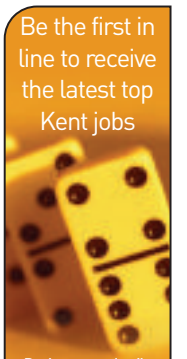

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Gillingham

Day & Nightime Carers

required, NVQ2 preferred but not essential

Please telephone for an application form
Tel: 01634 570230
348 Grange Road, Gillingham, Kent ME7 2UD

Operating in the drug & alcohol and mental health sectors, KCA (UK) provides a wide range of high quality and innovative specialist services for adults and young people. The organisation provides services from over twenty service bases across Kent, Surrey and the London boroughs, employs approximately 300 paid and unpaid staff and has an annual income exceeding £10.5 million.

REF: 491 - OPERATIONS MANAGER - YOUNG PERSONS' SERVICES

Drug and Alcohol Services - Kent & Medway
Salary £34,991 - £42,681 (SCP 43 - 52) (pay award pending)
37 hours per week • Essential Car User Allowance up to £1056
Based in East Kent

The role offers a stimulating combination of tasks, including Service Manager support and project management covering quality, performance and operational issues. You will play a key part in ensuring contractual compliance and assist in service development work.

You will be able to evidence:
- Extensive knowledge of services for young people with substance misuse problems.
- Staff performance management and service management experience
- A sound grasp of business and strategic planning
- An appropriate professional qualification.

Should you wish to discuss this opportunity informally, please call Peter Gallagher or Claire Goulding on 01795 590635 or e-mail peter@kca.org.uk or claire@kca.org.uk

For an application form and information pack, please contact: KCA (UK), Dan House, 44 East Street, Faversham, Kent ME13 8AT. Tel 01795 590635, Fax 01795 539351, email recruitment@kca.org.uk, website www.kca.org.uk.

Closing date: 13th July 2008
Interview date: 21st July 2008

KCA (UK) is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity for all and welcomes applications from people with experience of substance use or who have had previous problems with substance misuse.

Charity No: 292824

Operating in the drug & alcohol and mental health sectors, KCA (UK) provides a wide range of high quality and innovative specialist services for adults and young people. The organisation provides services from over twenty service bases across Kent, Surrey and the London boroughs, employs approximately 300 paid and unpaid staff and has an annual income exceeding £10.5 million.

REF: 488 - Director of Development and Marketing

Salary from £45,000 (negotiable plus pension and other benefits)
Based in Kent or London
Preferred 37 hours per week

This new senior post will have a lead responsibility for taking KCA (UK) into the next phase of its service expansion and for promoting the organisation's ethos and achievements. You will be responsible for actively seeking new contracts and establishing new services in line with KCA's strategic development plan and developing links with the range of KCA's external stakeholders, the general public and the media.

You will be able to evidence
- Extensive knowledge of the substance misuse and mental health fields or a related health/social welfare sector
- Experience of inter-agency working at a senior level and of relevant commissioning structures and processes
- Experience of successful large scale contract acquisition, service set up and delivery
- Degree level education together with an appropriate professional/managerial qualification

You will have an ability to work independently and imaginatively as well as contributing and collaborating effectively within a cohesive management structure.

For application forms contact: KCA (UK), 44 East Street, Faversham, Kent ME13 8AT. Telephone 01795 590635, Fax 01795 539351, Email recruitment@kca.org.uk, www.kca.org.uk.

Closing date: 6th July 2008
Interview date: 22nd July 2008

KCA (UK) is committed to the principles of equality of opportunity for all and welcomes applications from people with experience of substance use or who have had previous problems with substance misuse.

Charity No: 292824

Red Eagle

www.redeagle.jobs

DRIVERS

Recruiting for DRIVERS

HGV 1 - General Haulage
HGV 2 - Multi-Drop / Dustcart / HIAB

Opportunities throughout Kent

Driver Hotline **0845 61 20 444**

Workshop Engineer

We are a laboratory instrument manufacturer based in Sevenoaks. We have a vacancy for a self-motivated and practical person to fill a position for an assembly/fabricator

Applicants should be flexible and have basic practical electro-mechanical skills. Full training given. Salary negotiable.

To apply please ring **01732 743901**

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Basic 14k+£16k OTE commission (total £30k)

North and East Kent

BT Local Business is a successful venture created by BT to provide complete voice, data and computing solutions, coupled with excellent customer service, to local small and medium sized businesses (SMEs).

Utopia Enterprise Solutions Ltd is the local independently owned BT Local Business formed to manage and grow the substantial existing BT SME customer base in the North and East Kent area.

We are now looking for a successful individual with a proven track record of selling solutions-based IT Services and hardware into the small business environment. A successful candidate will be bright, enthusiastic, very well organised and self motivated. They must also be confident when dealing with customers and will be required to make telephone calls into our extensive customer base.

In return we offer: a basic salary, bonus package, excellent career prospects and comprehensive BT accredited training.

If you would like to be part of this exciting venture, please send covering letter and CV and to:

darren.burton@btlocalbusiness.co.uk

or call 01732 873 344

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www.btlocalbusiness.co.uk

ROCKDALE

DAY RSW (CARE WORKER)

£15,394.86 per annum inc. enhancements
36 hour week on rota over 5 shifts
(either early 7.30am to 2.30pm or late 1.00pm to 8.30pm)

Benefits include:
- 6 wks a/l,
- cont. pension scheme,
- Healthsure cash back plan,
- Rockdale t-shirts,
- meals on duty,
- parking on site,
- company sick pay after 6 mths service.

Please call Jay Drake on 01732 458762 or Rockdale House on 01732 454763 for a chat/application form.

Enhanced CRB/POVA checks will be made for this post

Accountability and responsibility
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Fighting for democracy in the community
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What could you contribute to Britain's best free newspaper?

SENIOR REPORTER

We are looking for a first class reporter to join the small but talented team at the award-winning Kent on Sunday newspaper and our associated digital platforms.

The ideal candidate will be hard working, imaginative and able to produce excellent copy under pressure.

We want someone who can help set the news agenda for the county by breaking exclusive stories that will be read by people across Kent.

You will be someone who can produce well-written features and human interest stories that get to the heart of a subject.

Candidates must have a relevant qualification and at least two years' experience of working as a news journalist.

To apply, write to: The Editor, Kent on Sunday, Apple Barn, Hythe Road, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent, TN25 6SR, or email ian.patel@kosmedia.co.uk

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Award-winning publications

Business Link has two key priorities: helping businesses grow and succeed and ensuring that the opportunity for entrepreneurial success is open to everyone within the county. We've already contributed to the growth of thousands of small and medium-sized businesses as well as providing support and guidance for people wishing to start a business.

We are now looking for two people to join our team of dedicated professional business people who work closely with Kent SMEs:

- An **Adviser Manager** will, together with a colleague, provide leadership and management for the team while generating and maintaining positive operational relationships with key stakeholders and partners in the county. **Salary is c£42K plus excellent benefits** for the right person who will have:
  - Exceptional & proven team leadership skills at senior level.
  - Have the ability to motivate a team to deliver excellent customer service.
  - Have the ability to see the wider, or corporate perspective and be very politically astute.
  - Have the attributes of an innovator and achiever, exceptional influencer and negotiator.
- An **Adviser** will build relationships with SMEs, to help them grow and become more profitable by encouraging them to sign up to a review of their business and complete an action plan. This will also require analysing the business needs to identify opportunities for growth and improvement. **Salary is c£32K plus excellent benefits** for the right person who will have:
  - Experience of working at management level in / with businesses and empathy with the issues they face
  - Excellent communication & relationship-building skills & good IT skills

The company is an equal opportunities employer and all applications will be given equal consideration regardless of age, disability, ethnic or national origin, gender, race, religion or sexual orientation.

For details of how to apply, please contact Jane Loder on **01732 878004** or **jane.loder@businesslinkkent.co.uk** by 25 June 2008.

Demelza Hospice Care for Children has further opportunities to join our dynamic and successful children's charity providing high quality care to life limited children and support to their families.

Human Resources Officer c.£21-23k

Demelza Hospice Care for Children provides specialist care and support to children with life limiting conditions and their families. Based from our hospice in Sittingbourne, you will undertake some travel to other sites in Kent, East Sussex and south London, providing generalist support and advice to line managers and employees.

With 150 multi disciplinary employees across 3 sites, plus a number of retail outlets, and 750 volunteers, you will be a competent generalist who enjoys the whole spectrum of HR practice and can be innovative to problem solving and thorough in delivery of a number of concurrent projects.

Working within a small HR team you will be a strong team player and have some understanding of the charity/voluntary sector with an appreciation for the diversity of disciplines you will be supporting.

With a minimum of a CIPD CPP and previous experience in a generalist role, you will enjoy a challenge and be self motivated in keeping your knowledge of all relevant issues up to date, demonstrating recent personal CPD. You will need a driving license, willingness to travel, and an ability to re-prioritize a changing workload.

You will need previous experience of recruitment, all aspects of performance management, including appraisal systems, capability and disciplinary issues, contracts of employments, and all aspect of employee relations.

Closing Date 1st July, 2008

Informal visits and chats warmly welcomed with Lavinia Jarrett, Head of Human Resources on 01795 845207. For an application pack contact Recruitment Line on 01795 845295.

Visit our website on **www.demelzahouse.org**
Enhanced Disclosure checks by the CRB will be undertaken for successful applicants.
Demelza is an equal opportunities employer and operates a no smoking policy.
Registered Charity No. 1039651.
Rook Lane, Bobbing, Sittingbourne, Kent ME9 8DZ

Registered Charity No. 1039651
A disclosure check will be required for the successful applicant
Demelza House is an equal opportunities employer and operates a no smoking policy.

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Register your details and we'll email you daily with new jobs that match your selected criteria

JobsforKent.co.uk
The smart way to find a job in the County

BEMS Controls Engineers

Reaching new heights
(whilst keeping your feet firmly on the ground)

Opportunities in Kent and the South East

GSH is a rapidly expanding facilities management company operating across the UK, Europe and the USA.

We are contracted to provide FM and Energy Services work for a wide range of high profile clients in all sectors and intend to significantly grow our business globally in the next few years.

We are looking to recruit additional reliable and enthusiastic people within Kent and the South East to ensure we achieve this goal.

The successful candidate should be well versed in at least one major BEMS manufacturers' product and will, ideally, have a working knowledge of a second with an employment background in control work.

The location of your work will be primarily, but not exclusively, Kent and the South East.

Of course, we offer competitive salaries, excellent benefits and training. You will have a varied and exciting workload and be part of a dynamic team within a growing company with plenty of opportunities.

Please apply to David Bennett, GSH House, Forge Lane, Stoke-on-Trent, ST1 5PZ, email vacancies@gshgroup.com, or telephone our Recruitment Hotline on 08000 12 12 24.

Grow with us

Regional Distribution Centre, Aylesford

Join our Regional Distribution Centre and you can share the profits, growth and opportunities that come with the Waitrose success story. Since opening last year, we have grown at a phenomenal rate and as we take responsibility for delivering stock to up to 50 branches in the south of England we're looking to take on more people with the passion to go the extra mile in everything they do. You'll pick up some extremely tasty rewards in return with benefits including pension scheme, discounts at Waitrose and John Lewis, and a profit-sharing scheme that last year amounted to an extra ten weeks' pay.

Section Manager, Catering

£21,000 - £28,300 + benefits

37.5 hours per week working five days out of seven on a two week alternating rota

With the ability to deputise for the Catering Manager in their absence and a desire to be hands-on, you will help to ensure staff are delighted with all aspects of the catering operation. You will make sure that Waitrose's food safety policies are strictly adhered to and lead, coach and develop your team to achieve the satisfaction of your customers, according to Waitrose's core behaviours and principles.

Chef

£318 - £414 per week + £31.80 weekly shift allowance + benefits

37.5 hours per week working five days out of seven on a three week alternating rota

A passion for food is essential in this role. You will assist in the production of good quality, fresh food for Waitrose's employees, ensuring dishes are well prepared and presented. You will be able to plan and organise your workload and ensure Waitrose's high standards of hygiene and safety are adhered to at all times. Taking pride in operating a clean, well maintained work area, you will rotate stock correctly, complete records for food temperature etc. Able to work in a team, you should strive to establish and maintain good working relationships. High standards of personal hygiene are essential.

You should have your City & Guilds 706/1 & 2 or Catering and Hospitality NVQ2, or sufficient equivalent experience. We require all Chefs to possess, or train to achieve a minimum of the Intermediate Food Hygiene Certificate.

Part-Time Catering Assistants

£6.36 - £8.30 per hour + £1.27 per hour shift allowance + benefits

Sunday - Tuesday 1.45pm - 8.30pm

Dedicated, reliable and hardworking, you will be involved in the preparation and serving of food to the required standard and according to food safety policy. Fully committed to achieving customer satisfaction, you must be flexible, prepared to become multi-skilled and undertake tasks in different areas. You will also enjoy working with others in a team, but also be able to operate independently.

Vehicle Technicians - Nights

£402 - £484 per week + £133.98 shift allowance + benefits

37.5 hours per week working five nights out of seven, 10pm - 6am

You'll carry out servicing, MOTs and repairs to ensure our fleet is maintained to a safe and roadworthy standard in line with VOSA, as well as dealing with all the related paperwork.

You should be an experienced mechanic with City and Guilds 1, 2, 3 Vehicle Technician or equivalent, CITB/City and Guilds Refrigeration/Gas Handling, IRTEC and an LGV C+E driving licence. Good communication skills are also important.

Transport Operators

£21,000 - £26,300 + benefits

37.5 hours per week working five days out of seven including weekends 2pm - 10pm

As one of our team of Transport Operators, you'll be responsible for executing the day-to-day plan, ensuring the operation runs smoothly and efficiently. This will entail despatching vehicles, making sure the site is controlled effectively and liaising with our warehouse teams. You should be familiar with a transport/logistics environment, be highly motivated, have a sharp eye for detail, a cool head under pressure and the ability to think on your feet.

Please apply online at **www.jlpjobs.com**

Closing date: 5th July 2008.

www.jlpjobs.com

Waitrose

ETHELBERT CHILDREN'S SERVICES

"Working and Caring for Children for over thirty years"

Senior/Residential Workers

Graveney, Nr Faversham

Shift Pattern including weekends & sleep-ins.
Knowledge preferred but opportunities available for candidates with a desire to undergo training and a willingness to join our existing dedicated childcare teams.

Starting salary (full-time) £16,354
enhanced payments according to current position.

Please contact Personnel Department for an application form:
Cheesemans Farmhouse, Alland Grange Lane, Manston, Kent, CT12 5BZ 01843 823762

We are an equal opportunities employer

Avenance

Swiss Re, Castle Hill House, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone, Kent CT20 2TF

KITCHEN ASSISTANT

Hours of work 11.00 am - 3.00pm
Rate of pay £5.52 per hour

We are looking to recruit an enthusiastic and committed person. The position would involve washing-up, cleaning and storing deliveries. Also help with preparing food for breakfast and lunch service.

Interested applicants should phone Jacqueline Kraft on tel: 0130 3224 447 or email timothy_hirtes@swissre.com for more detail and application forms. Closing dates 7th July 2008.

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t: 0870 4142 331
e: enquiries-sth@companyhealth.co.uk
www.companyhealth.co.uk

companyhealth

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Company Health Ltd, a leading OH provider, is looking for **screening nurses** to carry out lifestyle checks for a public sector employer in Kent. No OH experience is necessary as **full training** will be given. This is a peripatetic role which would be suitable for **RNs with an interest in health promotion**. The role is available on either a F/T or P/T basis with very **competitive rates**. This is a great opportunity for RNs looking to get into occupational health as there is **potential for progression** for the right candidates. If you enjoy working in a **close-knit, supportive team**, please forward your CV to Ellie Nelson at enquiries-sth@companyhealth.co.uk.

To advertise in this section 01303 817040

Amphenol

Electrical, electronic and fibre optic connectors, cables and systems

CNC Machine Setters / Programmers – Double Day Shift
Thanet Way, Whitstable
Amphenol Ltd is an innovative and leading edge manufacturer of both connectors and interconnect systems for applications within the milaero and industrial markets.
The successful candidate will have the following: -
Either –
Served a recognised general engineering apprenticeship training programme supported by a certificate of competence on one of either: Sliding Head and CNC Turning machines.
Or
Completed a satisfactory internal/external training programme period for CNC Setter Grade B for a period of one year, acquiring the skills necessary to set and programme CNC 1st operation turning machines.
Or
Shall be able to show previous experience of a comparable standard in this or another company.

We also require 1 years experience, at CNC Setter grade B level orequivalent on at least one of the following machines:
a. Swiss/sliding head automatic machines
b. CNC Machines
In return we offer a competitive package

For more information or to apply, please telephone the Human Resources Department on 01227 773390 or email laurasmith@amphenol.co.uk

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Amphenol

Electrical, electronic and fibre optic connectors, cables and systems

Line Leader
Thanet Way, Whitstable
Amphenol Ltd is an innovative and leading edge manufacturer of both connectors and interconnect systems for applications within the mil-aero and industrial markets. The successful candidate will support Production Management in the smooth running of the Manufacturing Assembly Lines.
Key Tasks: -
- Plan and prepare manufacturing production schedules and departmental work flow
- Ensure all due date deliveries and production targets are met
- Monitor consumables and stock levels
- Expedite operations that delay and alters schedules to combat delays caused by unforeseen circumstances
- Preparation of production reports and review documents such as production schedules and staffing levels
- Monitor staff performance, including staff discipline and make certain that company procedures are followed
- Carry out training with new starters or on new products as and when requested

Qualifications and Experience requirements: -
- Product knowledge would be beneficial but knowledge of similar manufacturing areas would be considered
- Experience of supervising and training necessary
- The ability to read and understand technical specifications and drawings and the ability to work within established procedures
- Knowledge of an MRP system preferred and standard Microsoft packages

In return we offer a competitive package

For more information or to apply, please telephone the Human Resources Department on 01227 773390 or email laurasmith@amphenol.co.uk

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It's yours.

PR OFFICER
Competitive salary + excellent benefits | Folkestone

With some experience of PR (gained through your job or perhaps university study), you just know that you've the talent to build your career in a fast-moving environment. You're keen to learn and even keener to progress. Then make your next move the right one – and join the UK's leading provider of products and services for people aged 50 and over.

Excellent communication and interpersonal skills are all important here, because we need you to host a wide range of events and develop strong relationships with journalists. This is all about getting to know the kind of stories and information they're looking for, then delivering exactly what they need.

You've already proved that you can write engaging and compelling copy, as well as juggle a number of tasks at any one time. But you should also enjoy working as part of a close-knit team, co-operating with colleagues to drive our continued success.

In return, you can look forward to an excellent benefits package including a subsidised staff restaurant, social club, medical insurance, pension, excellent career development opportunities and concessions for holidays and travel.

To apply, please write enclosing your CV and current salary details to Sally-Jane Plenge, Senior HR Officer, Saga Group Limited, The Saga Building, Enbrook Park, Folkestone, Kent CT20 3SE or e-mail: human.resources@saga.co.uk Please quote reference: SG214/KOS.

Closing date: 27 June 2008.

saga.co.uk

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SALES AGENTS

£16k – £18k OTE (uncapped) + excellent benefits package | FOLKESTONE

One month training plus first three months employment in Thanet before relocating to Folkestone

Listening to customers. Taking the time to understand their needs. Building a real rapport with them. That's what we call doing things properly for our customers as we deliver great service, selling our products to people aged 50 and over.

And if you can help us achieve that, we'll do things properly for you too. That means excellent training and development at every stage. It also means unlimited earnings potential and superb benefits including private healthcare, pension scheme, free car parking, social club and discounts on insurance products, holidays and flights for you and your relatives.

What's more, it means a friendly working environment here at our state-of-the-art offices – as well as all the training and support you need to do a terrific job.

The question is, have you got what it takes to be part of this fast-growing national company? You'll need to be target driven and able to rise to new challenges, that's for sure. But above all you must share our commitment to getting things right. Every time.

We also have opportunities for you to 'multi-skill' in the world of holiday and cruise sales, enhancing your career prospects still further.

If it's time for you to enjoy the rewards you deserve, please send your application form quoting reference SVS222/KOS to Kerry Harrison, HR Officer, Saga Group Limited, The Saga Building, Middelburg Square, Folkestone, Kent CT20 1AZ or e-mail: human.resources@saga.co.uk
Please call 01303 774888 for an application form or download one from our website.

Closing date: 11 July 2008.

saga.co.uk

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ETHELBERT CHILDREN'S SERVICES

"Working and Caring for Children for over thirty years"

Residential Worker

Deal

Shift Pattern including weekends & sleep-ins.
Knowledge preferred but opportunities available for candidates with a desire to undergo training and a willingness to join our existing dedicated childcare teams.

Starting salary (full-time) £16,354
enhanced payments according to current position.

Please contact Personnel Department for an application form:
Cheesemans Farmhouse, Alland Grange Lane, Manston, Kent, CT12 5BZ 01843 823762

We are an equal opportunities employer

VACANCY for a SALES PERSON

at Kent County Cricket Club CANTERBURY

The Commercial Department at Kent County Cricket Club has a vacancy for a **full time sales person** who has previous experience of telesales, IT skills and a knowledge of Microsoft office.

Based at The St Lawrence Ground in Canterbury, the successful applicant will be expected to sell Kent CCC advertising, cricket related hospitality, and conferencing and non cricket related functions at the Ground.

If you are interested please write – enclosing a current CV to:

Jon Fordham – Commercial & Operations Director at Kent County Cricket Club, The St Lawrence Ground, Old Dover Road, Canterbury CT1 3NZ or email: **jon.fordham.kent@ecb.co.uk**

Previous applicants need not apply.

Training and Development Officer

Support Grade E: £19736 to £25441

MID Kent COLLEGE — an associate college of the UNIVERSITY OF KENT

We currently have an opportunity for a full time Training and Development Officer, who will have responsibility for developing, implementing and maintaining the College's training and development practices and procedures.

This would include:

- Designing and developing training and development programmes based on both the college's and the individual's needs.
- Considering the costs of planned programmes and keeping within budgets.
- Assessing the return on investment of any training or development programme.
- Producing training materials for in-house courses.
- Managing the delivery of training and development programmes.

You will be able to work with minimum supervision and have strong analytical, communication and report writing skills.

Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please call the Personnel department on 01634 845402 (24 hour answer machine) or e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk quoting the appropriate job title.

Closing date 4th July 2008. Interviews will be held on Friday 11 July 2008

Mid-Kent College is committed to Equal Opportunities and encourages applications from all sections of the community and welcomes applications from under represented groups including black, minority ethnic and disabled people.

The Honourable Pilot

(Brewers Fayre/Premier Inn)

Has vacancies for the following positions:

Team Leader/Trainee Assistant Manager
Grill Chef
Breakfast Waiting Team Member
Kitchen Porter
Temporary Night Receptionist

If you are Interested in any of the above positions please call in for an application or telephone

The Honourable Pilot,
Will Adams Way, Gillingham, Kent, ME8 6BY
Tel: **0870 1977105 / 07833 576969**

To advertise in this section
01303 817040

Public Sector

You can also find the latest jobs online: www.jobsforkent.co.uk

KOSMEDIA | Telephone: 01303 817040 | Fax: 01303 817004 | Email: appointments@kosmedia.co.uk | Online: www.jobsforkent.co.uk

THE KING'S SCHOOL CANTERBURY

FORMER PUPILS ASSOCIATION CO-ORDINATOR

(1 PART-TIME POST)

Co-ordinating alumni services and activities, developing new initiatives to further strengthen relations between King's and its alumni.

Required to work three days per week, 8.30 am – 5 pm, usually Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Experience with databases, Word, Excel and the internet an advantage. Good administrative and organisational skills and an excellent telephone manner essential.

The King's School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post, including checks with past employers and the Criminal Records Bureau.

For a Job Description, further information and application form, please telephone the School's Personnel Department on 01227 595655 (24 hour answerphone).
or email recruitment@kings-bursary.co.uk

Closing date for receipt of completed application forms: 24th June 2008

The King's School, Canterbury is an Educational Charity – Registration No. 307942

Raynehurst Community Primary School

Cerne Road, Gravesend, Kent

NURSERY MANAGER

We require a Nursery Manager to start in September 2008. Are you an excellent, enthusiastic, energetic and creative person? Have you at least three years experience leading a team of staff? Can you promote high standards and enable all children to achieve? If you have answered yes to all three questions then you could be the person we are looking for.

Visits are essential, so if you are interested please contact our School Manager, Mrs Kerr to arrange an appointment on 01474 361193 or via email - carolkerr@raynehurst-primary.kent.sch.uk

Any offer of employment for this post will be subject to a satisfactory Enhanced Criminal Record Bureau Disclosure.

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Hersden Community Primary School

Miss Alison Goodman (Head Teacher)
Shaftesbury Road, Hersden, Kent. CT3 4HS
Tel: 01227 710414 • Fax: 01227 712162
E-mail: headteacher@hersden.kent.sch.uk
E-mail: office@hersden.kent.sch.uk

Office Administrator & Clerk to Governing Body

Required For September 2008 • 37 hours per week (Term Time Only) Salary: Kent Scheme Band 6 (£18,288 – £20,061 pro rata)

The successful applicant would:

- Have good inter-personal skills; a "people person'
- Be ICT Proficient
- Have SIMS experience (or similar data base)
- Be Capable of working independently
- Take responsibility for the general running of the school office
- Be subject to an Enhanced Criminal Records Disclosure

To arrange a visit or to obtain an application pack please contact the school office

CLOSING DATE: Thursday 26th June 2008
Interviews to be held on Thursday 10th July 2008

Sir Joseph Williamson's Mathematical School

Maidstone Road, Rochester, Kent ME1 3EL
Tel: 01634 844008
www.sirjosephwilliamson.medway.sch.uk
Age range of students 11-18

We require an

ICT TECHNICIAN

37 HRS PER WK • TERM TIME ONLY

to start September 2008. Salary will be according to age and experience and will be paid at Medway grade C1-Salary range £16,217 - £21,421 Pro rata (Pay award pending).

You will work as part of a team of three technicians to oversee all aspects of the school's curriculum network, building and testing applications, liaising with suppliers or providers in fault finding and fixing. The ability to work under pressure and have a flexible approach to your workload is a necessity.

Please contact Mrs J Freeman for an application form and job specification on 01634 844008. The deadline for application forms to reach the school will be 7th July 2008.

To advertise in this section
01303 817040

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Experienced, NQT's & Graduates

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0845 130 4586

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ST. KATHERINE'S SCHOOL
require a

TEACHING ASSISTANT

from the start of September 2008 to work for 25 hours per week, term time only.

Qualifications an advantage but not essential. Gross salary approx £6,709 per annum. Any offer of appointment for post is subject to a satisfactory Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure.

Application forms available from St. Katherine's School, St. Katherine's Lane, Snodland, Kent ME6 5EJ. Telephone: 01634 240061. Closing date 27th June 2008.

Cicero Languages International are looking for a **DELTA qualified Centre Manager** and **CELTA qualified EFL Teachers** for our Margate centre this summer.

For further details please contact kate@cicero.co.uk - Tel. 01843 823771

Raynehurst Community Primary School
Cerne Road, Gravesend, Kent

KS1 TEACHER

We require a KS1 Teacher to start in September 2008. We are looking for a creative, enthusiastic, inspirational, innovative, motivated and dynamic person to join our team. If you have a passion for children and teaching and a proven track record of enhancing children's progress and a love of learning and would like to further your career at Raynehurst Community Primary School then please contact our School Manager, Mrs Kerr, on 01474 361193 or via email - carolkerr@raynehurst-primary.kent.sch.uk to arrange an appointment to visit the school. Visits are essential.

Any offer of employment for this post will be subject to a satisfactory Enhanced Criminal Record Bureau Disclosure.

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

To advertise in this section

01303 817040

BRADSTOW SCHOOL

34 Dumpton Park Drive
Broadstairs, Kent
CT10 1BY

All appointments are subject to a CRB check

All shortlisted applicants will be expected to visit the school before interview.

Bradstow School is an equal opportunities employer

Bradstow is a fascinating and unique residential school for children between the ages of 5 & 19, set in 13 acres of parkland just a few hundred metres from the sandy beaches of Broadstairs. We seek to meet the needs of children with autism and severe learning difficulties, and have achieved national recognition for our developments in Communication and Behaviour Management.

COMMUNICATION FACILITATOR

(with Childcare Liaison)

We are looking for someone to provide support to the Head of the Communication Team (Speech Therapy), and to:

- Make resources to support the acquisition and development of communication skills
- Support, by working alongside, teaching and care staff in developing students' communication skills
- Deliver Makaton signing

This will entail the need to work flexibly; some evening and weekend work will be required

The ideal candidate will have qualifications in Makaton together with an understanding of augmentative communication and IT skills, in order to create communication aids for students.

Term Time Only - 37 hours per week

£16,607 - £18,979 per annum (pay award pending)

For all posts we look for candidates who are mature, practical, flexible and responsible with a patient and caring attitude to deal sensitively with vulnerable children.

For an application form and information pack please call 01843 608727 (24 hour recruitment answer machine), or email personnel@bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk.

Please note that CV's will not be considered

Applications should be received no later than 12 noon, Thursday 3rd July 2008.

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Teachers Needed

Primary, Secondary and SEN.

Capita Education Resourcing is the leading provider of educational staff throughout the UK.

Our dedicated and friendly Kent team can provide you with:

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Even if you can only spare one day a week we would love to hear from you.

To find out more information and to register with us, please call us free on:
0800 731 6871
or e-mail jean.read@capita.co.uk

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Ashford Christ Church

A Church of England Specialist Maths and Computing College
Headteacher: Catherine Barber, Millbank Road, Kingsnorth, Ashford, Kent TN23 3HG

Christ Church is a successful Church of England High School in the market town of Ashford, Kent. Head teacher, Catherine Barber, has been appointed to lead the school in its next phase of progress and innovation. We seek to recruit innovative practitioners who will inspire and motivate our students to reach their full potential. Christ Church is at the heart of its community and proud of its Christian ethos. It is fully inclusive and offers excellent pastoral care to students within a welcoming environment.

Head teacher and Board of Governors are seeking to recruit a passionate, hardworking and dedicated

FINANCE OFFICER

Post available 37 hours per week, 42 weeks per year

Responsible to the Bursar for the whole school procurement, receipt of goods and payment of invoices in our very busy office. Knowledge of FMS6 would be advantageous although training will be provided. The role demands a high level of customer service, a professional telephone manner, accurate IT skills and the ability to multi-task.

Pre interview visits are actively encouraged in order for you to meet us and gain an insight into the role.

Kent Pay Scheme Band 5 Pts 14-17 £15,903-£17,492 (pro rata)

Appointment is subject to Enhanced CRB check.

Teaching Application Form obtainable by visiting our website: www.ashfordchristchurch.com School info/Vacancies

For further information and an application pack please contact HR Officer Samantha Sullivan at samanthasullivan@ashfordchristchurch.com
Telephone: 01233 623465/652613 or Fax: 01233 636861

Closing date: 27th June 2008.

Ashford Christ Church is an Equal Opportunities employer.

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Technician – Wood Occupations (Ref: S2138)
Folkestone
Full-time, 37 Hours Per Week

With campuses in Ashford, Folkestone and Dover, South Kent College offers a wide range of courses from Entry Level to Level 7 and caters for over 15, 000 students of all ages.

We are currently seeking a Technician to support staff and students in the day to day running of workshops within the Wood Occupation department within Construction. The role will include assisting with the supervision of students under instruction and advising students. In addition you will be required to prepare and maintain all workshops, equipment and tools. The successful candidate will be required to have a good standard of education in addition to a Wood Machining qualification, Bench Joinery or Site Carpentry qualification and have recent/relevant industrial experience. Above all they will need to be committed to student success.

For further information, including salary details and an application pack, contact the Human Resources Department on either 0845 207 8222 (24 hour answer phone), email: humanresources@southkent.ac.uk, or visit: www.southkent.ac.uk

The deadline for receipt of all completed application forms is 5pm on Wednesday 2nd July.

All posts are subject to a disclosure check by the Criminal Records Bureau.
We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expect all employees to share this commitment.
Applications are welcome from suitably qualified candidates regardless of ethnicity, gender, age, disability, sexuality or religion.

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JOB OPPORTUNITIES AT SHEPWAY DISTRICT COUNCIL

ELECTORAL SERVICES & LOCAL LAND CHARGES ASSISTANT

£14,127 - £16,092 • DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

The Electoral Services and Local Land Charges Team is committed to provide a high standard of customer service while delivering statutory functions.

We are looking for a person who is able to contribute to and support the work of the two areas, which both work to strict deadlines. The two principal areas of work are;

- Assisting with the statutory function of maintenance of the Local Land Charges Register and the receiving, processing and completing of Local Authority land charges searches;
- Assisting with the statutory functions of the annual preparation of the Register of Electors, the monthly rolling registration process; the administration of postal and proxy voting and the administration of all types of elections.

This is a full time position, 37 hours per week, however during an election period and the annual canvass additional hours may be required and annual leave will be restricted. The successful applicant will be required to be proficient in both areas and be able to work with the minimum of supervision as part of the team successfully delivering these two functions. Both areas operate using specialist computerised packages for which training will be given, however experience in information and communication technology is essential, you must also be able to demonstrate proficient keyboard skills, attention to detail, maintain confidentiality of information and be able to communicate effectively.

For an informal discussion about this role, please contact Valma Page - Electoral Services & Local Land Charges Manager on 01303 853341.

Application details can be downloaded at www.shepway.gov.uk or email: jobs@shepway.gov.uk or call our 24 hour answer phone service on 01303 853481.

Closing date for completed applications is Friday 4 July 2008

Shepway District Council
Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue
Folkestone, Kent CT20 2QY
Tel: 01303 853000
www.shepway.gov.uk

Folkestone
Hythe & Romney Marsh
Shepway District Council
www.shepway.gov.uk

POSITIVE ABOUT DISABLED PEOPLE

Shepway District Council is an Equal Opportunities Employer and welcomes applications irrespective of race, colour, age, sex or disability.

Find a job online

Register your details and we'll email you daily with new jobs that match your selected criteria

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achievement employability experience development

Canterbury College

Canterbury College is a leading FE and HE College which offers opportunities and an environment in which our 800 staff and 12,000 learners can reach their potential, so we can achieve our goal of being one of the best Colleges by 2010. To support this, the College has been undergoing a £50 million re-development, which opened in January 2008. We are now developing plans for Phase 3, for completion in 2012.

Co-ordinator – Literacy and Numeracy (Basic Skills) Post Ref: CO131
37 hrs per week, salary starting from £26,365 per annum

Co-ordinator for HE Music provision Post Ref: 08/89
2 x 18.5 hrs per week or 1 x 37 hrs per week, salary starting from £26,365 per annum

Lecturer in Hospitality & Catering Post Ref: 08/47
18.5 hrs per week, salary range £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum

Lecturer Basic Skills and ESOL Post Ref: 08/90
27.75 hrs per week, salary range £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum

Lecturer Basic Skills and ESOL Post Ref: 08/91
37 hrs per week, salary range £17,816 - £25,545 per annum

Lecturer in Chemistry Post Ref: 06/182
18.5 hrs per week, salary range £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum

Lecturer Key Skills within Early Years and Public Services Post Ref: 08/39
37 hrs per week, salary range £17,816 - £25,545 per annum

Higher Education Lecturer in Building Surveying Post Ref: 07/28
9.25 hrs per week, salary range £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum

Higher Education Supply Lecturers are required in the following areas:

Fine Art Practice Post Ref: S/HE

Sculptural Practice Post Ref: S/HE

Early Years Studies Post Ref: S/HE

Care Management Post Ref: S/HE

Counselling (must be BACP accredited) Post Ref: S/HE
Various hours available, salary range £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum.

Supply Lecturers in Amenity Horticulture Post Ref: S/AH
Various hours available from July 2008, salary range £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum.

Supply Lecturers in Dental Nursing Post Ref: S/DN
Various hours available, salary range £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum.

Infrastructure (Network) Team Leader Post Ref: NTL1
37 hrs per week, salary starting from £23,651 per annum

Network Application Technician (Advanced) Post Ref: ATA
37 hrs per week, salary starting from £20,775 per annum

Media and Public Relations Officer Post Ref: 08/32
37 hrs per week, salary starting from £20,775 per annum

Curriculum Support Assistant Construction Post Ref: 06/201
18.5 hrs per week, 38 weeks per year term time.
Salary starting from £18,375 pro rata per annum

Pre 16 Learning Support Post Ref: 07/17
25 hrs per week, 38 weeks term time.
Salary starting from £16,364 pro rata per annum
Fixed term post ending 31 August 2010

Student Support Finance Advisor Post Ref: LSF1
18.5 hrs per week, salary starting from £14,535 pro rata per annum

For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone) quoting the post reference.
The closing date for the above posts is Monday 7th July 2008 at 12 noon.

Staff benefits include:

- Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme
- Proximity to Mainbus / Train Stations
- Close to City Centre
- Sports Hall and Gym
- Generous Holiday Allowance
- Staff Discount Scheme

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Arethusa Road, Rochester, ME1 2UW • Tel: 01634 844809 • Fax: 01634-818385
E-mail: office@thomasaveling.co.uk • www.thomasaveling.co.uk

INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

ATTENDANCE OFFICER

Term Time only - 30-37 hours per week (negotiable)
Salary will be paid pro rata on the NJC/TAS Pay Scale Grade D2 – (£14,492-£18,430 fte)

We seek an experienced clerical support worker to take over the duties of Student Attendance Officer as soon as possible.

Tasks include recording and monitoring attendance of students, providing information for management and completion of returns for local and central Government. The successful candidate will have excellent interpersonal and communication skills and sound administrative/ICT capability.

- Job description and application form available on the school website
- Please contact the school to request an informal visit if required

Letter of application with CV should be sent to Mr S Rayner, Finance & Business Manager, to the above address.
Closing Date: Monday 23rd June 2008

The Thomas Aveling School is: - an Equal Opportunities Employer - committed to safeguarding the welfare of all students and an enhanced CRB check will be required for the successful applicant

training 4 business

Employer Training Consultant

Through Training 4 Business, employers across Kent have access to a wide-range of training solutions, from advice and development of training programmes to ongoing training support. Kent businesses across all industries have benefited from the flexible and professional courses provided by Training 4 Business.

Training 4 Business is dedicated to providing a high-quality service to employers and is seeking to expand its team of training consultants in order to aid the development of employer engagement. If you're motivated by a challenge and have the ability to meet the needs of a range of employers, then we want to hear from you.

Closing date for all applications: 12pm Tuesday 8th July 2008.

Interviews to be held on or after Wednesday 16th July 2008.

For further information, including salary details and an application pack, please contact the Human Resources Department on either 0845 207 8222 (24 hour answer phone), email humanresources@southkent.ac.uk or visit www.southkent.ac.uk

All posts are subject to a disclosure check by the Criminal Records Bureau.
We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expect all employees to share this commitment.
Applications are welcome from suitably qualified candidates regardless of ethnicity, gender, age, disability, sexuality or religion.

SKC South Kent College
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KENT AUTISTIC TRUST

The Kent Autistic Trust is a very well respected specialist provider of services for people across the spectrum of Autism. It is an innovative charity providing residential care, day activity services and support. The Trust encourages maximum independence, choice and use of community resources, within a supportive environment.
We are currently recruiting for the following position:

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Would you prefer to retain flexibility and be able to make choices that suit you and your private life, regarding time and location of work then why not join our flexibank? Our current hourly rates of pay are: for Waking Night Casual Worker £9.21, Senior Casual Worker £7.70 and Casual Care Worker £6.40.
Would you like to consider a career in the Kent Autistic Trust and receive training and support as our investment in your professional development? Do you have an interest in working with people who have Autistic Spectrum Disorder and/or learning disabilities?
Successful candidates will also enjoy the following benefits:

- Comprehensive induction training
- Childcare Vouchers Scheme
- Free meals whilst on duty
- Free Confidential Staff Counselling Support Line

We are an equal opportunities employer and welcome applications from a wide section of the community.
For an informal chat and/or for an application form contact Personnel on 01634 405168. An application pack can be downloaded from www.kentautistic.com
All applicants who are offered employment will be subject to a criminal record check from the Criminal Records Bureau.
Closing date: Monday 30th June 2008.

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achievement employability experience development

Sheppey College

Sheppey College is part of Canterbury College. Canterbury College is a leading FE and HE College which offers opportunities and an environment in which our 800 staff and 12,000 learners can reach their potential, so we can achieve our goal of being one of the best Colleges by 2010. To support this, the College has been undergoing a £50 million re-development, which opened in January 2008. We are now developing plans for Phase 3, for completion in 2012.

Senior Learning Resources Officer Post Ref: S3
37 hrs per week, salary starting from £20,775 per annum

Learning Support - Construction and Key Skills Post Ref: 08/92
18.5 hrs per week, 38 weeks term time, salary starting from £16,364 pro rata per annum

Learning Support - Administration, Finance and Key Skills Post Ref: 08/93
18.5 hrs per week, 38 weeks term time, salary starting from £16,364 pro rata per annum

Learning Support - Administration and Key Skills Post Ref: 08/94
18.5 hrs per week, 38 weeks term time, salary starting from £16,364 pro rata per annum

For an application pack please visit www.cant-col.ac.uk or call the Personnel Office on 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone) quoting the post reference.
The closing date for the above posts is Monday 7th July 2008 at 12 noon.

Staff benefits include:

- Pensions and Life Assurance Scheme
- Generous Holiday Allowance
- Proximity to Mainbus / Train Stations
- Staff Discount Scheme

Canterbury College is an equal opportunity employer

Gravesham Borough Council

Communities
Committee Services

Committee Services Assistant

Salary: Circa £19,000 - £23,000
Ref: CSA/SH

We are seeking an enthusiastic, well organised and politically aware individual to join our small and supportive team running the democratic processes at Gravesham.

The successful candidate will have proven experience of working in an office envionment undertaking a wide range of duties, ideally including taking notes at meetings; and an understanding of the workings of a large organisation or local authority. The increased use of specialist software is integral in improving our service and competent IT skills are pre requisite in this role.

You must be willing to work in an often busy environment and regular attendance at evening meetings will be required.

This is an exciting opportunity for the right candidate who will be fully supported in undertaking a professional qualification in the field.

Closing date: 7, July 2008.

For an application form and job description please contact:
Customer Services, Gravesham Borough Council, Civic Centre, Windmill Street, Gravesend, Kent DA12 1AU.

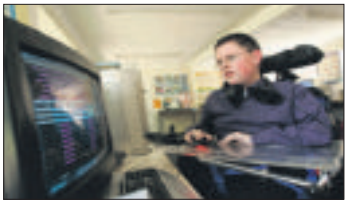
Telephone: 01474 33 70 00
Email: customer.services@gravesham.gov.uk
Website: www.gravesham.gov.uk

Gravesham Borough Council is working towards equal opportunities and welcomes applications from all sections of the community. The council also operates a no smoking policy.

Beacon Council 2005-2006 Promoting Racial Equality 2001-2002 Town Centre Regeneration | INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Valence School

Valence School is expanding and we require some additional dynamic staff to support the work of the School. Could we be looking for someone like you?



Valence School is a KCC all age residential and day special school for children and young people with physical disabilities, complex medical needs and associated learning and communication difficulties.

We have the following vacancies:

RE / Humanities Co-ordinator (full time)
Main teaching scale + SEN allowance

ICT Teacher (part time)
Main teaching scale + SEN allowance

Personalised Care and Inclusion Leader
(full time Kent Scheme 7/8 £20,061 - £26,159)

Student Support Assistants
(morning & evening shifts Kent Scheme 3 £13,959 - £15,826 pro rata)

Keyworkers
(full and part time Kent Scheme 5 £16,627 - £18,288)

Waking Night Staff
(part time Kent Scheme 3 £13,959 - £15,826 plus unsocial hours enhancement)

Cleaners
(flexible evening shifts from £6.46 per hour)

Minibus Driver and Maintenance
Clean appropriate licence required
(full time Kent Scheme 5 £16,627 - £18,288)

Receptionist
(morning and holiday cover part time Kent Scheme 3 £13,959 - £15,826 pro rata)

Fundraiser
(remunerated at a percentage of the amount raised)

For further information about these new roles at Valence, please contact the Staff Services Team on 07788421073 or email vacancies@valence.kent.sch.uk.

Closing date for all applications is Friday 4th July 2008.

34 Dumpton Park Drive
Broadstairs, Kent
CT10 1BY

All appointments are subject to a CRB check

All shortlisted applicants will be expected to visit the school before interview.

Bradstow School is an equal opportunities employer

INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Creative, committed, enthusiastic and resilient

TEACHERS do amazing things at BRADSTOW SCHOOL

If you would like to join them in January 2009, or as soon as possible, we are confident that:- It will probably be the hardest teaching job you will ever have.
- It will certainly be the most satisfying.

Bradstow is an exciting and unique residential school for children between the ages of 5 & 19, set in 13 acres of parkland just a few hundred metres from the sandy beaches of Broadstairs. We seek to meet the needs of children with autism and severe learning difficulties, many of whom have associated challenging behaviours. We have achieved national recognition for our developments in Communication and Behaviour Management.

Professional and personal qualities in this specialised and challenging field are very important. Experience, whilst helpful is not essential. Extensive and on-going training and support of all staff is at the core of the success of the school. All teachers are fully trained and supported in TEACCH, Prospect, PECS and other Augmentative Communication Systems as well as being provided with other specialist skills. You will also be supported and encouraged to further develop your skills and knowledge by undertaking further Degree and Diploma studies.

OFSTED 2005 said,
"The expertise and skill of staff in every aspect of the school's highly specialised work is exemplary"
"Pupils make remarkable progress in the way they overcome communication and social difficulties and so become able to learn often for the first time"
"Bradstow is a very good school, which helps transform pupils' and students' daily lives."

If you would like to join our team, and help us to continue to transform the lives of these children and their families, give us a call. Be in no doubt, this is a challenging working environment for which you will need to be committed to the needs of the child and the school. In return we offer a highly rewarding and satisfying career, with quite a bit of fun thrown in as well!

For SEN specialists, the second SEN point will be available.

For an application form and information pack please call 01843 608727 **(24 hour recruitment answer machine)**, or email personnel@bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk.
Please note that CV's will not be considered.

Applications should be received no later than 12 noon, 4th July 2008

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Accountancy

Credit Controllers

Folkestone
Salary: TBA
Page Personnel Finance is the UK's leading Accountancy based recruitment agency. Due to a high volume of jobs, accounts staff are needed in the following area: Credit Controllers 18k Folkestone. Plus many more! To apply/register, please send your CV to canterbury@pagepersonnel.co.uk or call one of the team on 01227 783880.
To apply/more information:
Page Personnel
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 783880
Email canterbury@pagepersonnel.co.uk

Part-Qualified Accountants

Dover
Salary: TBA
Page Personnel Finance is the UK's leading Accountancy based recruitment agency. Due to a high volume of jobs, accounts staff are needed in the following area: Part-Qualified Accountants 30k Dover. Plus many more! To apply/register, please send your CV to canterbury@pagepersonnel.co.uk or call one of the team on 01227 783880.
To apply/more information:
Page Personnel
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 783880
Email canterbury@pagepersonnel.co.uk

Purchase Ledger Clerks

Ashford
Salary: TBA
Page Personnel Finance is the UK's leading Accountancy based recruitment agency. Due to a high volume of jobs, accounts staff are needed in the following area: Purchase Ledger Clerks 18k Ashford. Plus many more! To apply/register, please send your CV to canterbury@pagepersonnel.co.uk or call one of the team on 01227 783880.
To apply/more information:
Page Personnel
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 783880
Email canterbury@pagepersonnel.co.uk

Administration, Secretarial, PA

Administrator - Construction

Ashford
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: 5pm,Wednesday 25th June 2008
To apply/more information:
South Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: S2140
Tel: 0845 207 8222
(24 hour answerphone)
Email humanresources@southkent.ac.uk

Administrator - Health and Care CoVE

Folkestone
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: 5pm,Wednesday 25th June 2008
To apply/more information:
South Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: S2139
Tel: 0845 207 8222 (24 hour answerphone)
Email humanresources@southkent.ac.uk

Administrator - Health and Care KCC

Folkestone
Salary: TBC
Closing Date: 5pm,Wednesday 25th June 2008
To apply/more information:
South Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: S2141
Tel: 0845 207 8222 (24 hour answerphone)
Email humanresources@southkent.ac.uk

Communication facilitator (with Childcare Liaison)

Broadstairs
Salary: £16,607 - £18,979 per annum (pay award pending)
Closing Date: Thursday 3rd July 2008
To apply/more information:
Bradstow School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01843 608727
Email personnel@bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk

FORMER PUPILS ASSOCIATION CO-ORDINATOR

Canterbury
Salary: TBC
Closing Date: 24th June 2008
Co-ordinating alumni services and activities, developing new initiatives to further strengthen relations between King's and its alumni. Required to work three days per week, 8.30 am – 5 pm, Usually Monday, Wednesday and Friday. Experience with databases, Word, Excel and the internet an advantage. Good administrative and organisational skills and an excellent telephone manner essential. The King's School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and applicants must be willing to undergo child protection screening appropriate to the post, including checks with past employers and the Criminal Records Bureau. For a Job Description, further information and application form, please telephone or email the School's Personnel Department.
To apply/more information:
Kings School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 595655
(24 hour answerphone)
Email recruitment@kings-bursary.co.uk

Learning Support - Administration and Key Skills

Sheerness
Salary: from £16,364 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 7th July 2008
To apply/more information:
Personnel Office
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/94
Tel: 01227 811282
Email www.cant-col.ac.uk

Learning Support - Administration, Finance and Key Skills

Sheerness
Salary: from £16,364 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 7th July 2008
To apply/more information:
Personnel Office
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/93
Tel: 01227 811282
Email www.cant-col.ac.uk

Office Administration and Clerk to Governing Body

Canterbury
Salary: Kent Scheme Band 6 (£18,288 – £20,061 pro rata)
Closing Date: Thursday 26th June 2008
37 hours per week (Term Time Only) The successful applicant would: • Have good inter-personal skills; a "people person' • Be ICT Proficient • Have SIMS experience (or similar data base) • Be Capable of working independently • Take responsibility for the general running of the school office • Be subject to an Enhanced Criminal Records Disclosure To arrange a visit or to obtain an application pack please contact the school office Interviews to be held on Thursday 10th July 2008.
To apply/more information:
Miss Alison Goodman (Head Teacher)
Hersden Community Primary
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 710414
Email office@hersden.kent.sch.uk

Receptionist

Sevenoaks
Salary: Kent Scheme 3 £13,959 - £15,826 pro rata
Closing Date: Friday 4th July 2008
To apply/more information:
Staff Services Team
Valence School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 07788421073
Email vacancies@valence.kent.sch.uk

Receptionist/ Administration Assistant

Aylesford
Salary: Kent Scheme 3 - £13,959 to £15,826 pro rata
Closing Date: 11th July 2008
Kent Scheme 3 - £13,959 to £15,826 pro rata 37 hours per week 40 weeks per year (Term time plus 10 additional days to be arranged) The successful candidate will provide reception duties and general clerical assistance to this busy school. Applicants should have accurate typing skills, flexible attitude and knowledge of Word and Excel. First aid experience would be an advantage, although training will be given. Closing date for applications is Friday 11th July 2008.
To apply/more information:
Jill McKenna
Aylesford School - Sports College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01622 717341
Email jill.mckenna@aylesford.kent.sch.uk

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To advertise in this section or online
01303 817040

Catering, Hospitality

Bar and Waiting Staff

Deal
Salary: Wage Negotiable
Mature, experienced bar and waiting staff to work on own and as part of a small team.
To apply/more information:
The Waterfront Restaurant & Bar
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01304 361728
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Chef

Maidstone
Salary: £318 - £414 per week + £31.80 weekly shift allowance + benefits
Closing Date: 5th July 2008.
37.5 hours per week working five days out of seven on a three week alternating rota. A passion for food is essential in this role. You will assist in the production of good quality, fresh food for Waitrose's employees, ensuring dishes are well prepared and presented. You will be able to plan and organise your workload and ensure Waitrose's high standards of hygiene and safety are adhered to at all times. Taking pride in operating a clean, well maintained work area, you will rotate stock correctly, complete records for food temperature etc. Able to work in a team, you should strive to establish and maintain good working relationships. High standards of personal hygiene are essential. You should have your City & Guilds 706/1 & 2 or Catering and Hospitality NVQ2, or sufficient equivalent experience. We require all Chefs to possess, or train to achieve a minimum of the Intermediate Food Hygiene Certificate. Please apply online.
To apply/more information:
Waitrose
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email www.jlpjobs.com

CHEF DE PARTIE

Deal
Salary: £16,000pa
Candidates need to be passionate and motivated with a minimum of 3 years experience. Please send CV to: Mr Ian Dunkerley, 19 Beach Street, Deal, Kent CT14 7AH
To apply/more information:
Mr Ian Dunkerley
Dunkerleys Seafood Restaurant and Hotel
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01304 375016
Email ddunkerley@btconnect.com

COMMIS CHEF

Deal
Salary: £12 - £14,000pa
Candidates need to be passionate and motivated with a minimum of 2 years experience. Please send CV to: Mr Ian Dunkerley, 19 Beach Street, Deal, Kent CT14 7AH.
To apply/more information:
Mr Ian Dunkerley
Dunkerleys Seafood Restaurant and Hotel
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01304 375016
Email ddunkerley@btconnect.com

Experienced Chef

Deal
Salary: Wage Negotiable
Experienced Chef wanted, must be able to write menus and work under pressure as part of a small team.
To apply/more information:
The Waterfront Restaurant & Bar
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01304 361728
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

HOST FAMILIES REQUIRED

Tunbridge Wells
Salary: n/a
HOST FAMILIES REQUIRED in Tunbridge Wells, to accommodate international adult students, for short and/or long stay visits. Full details from Cicero Languages International Tel. 01892 - 547077 Email: office@cicero.co.uk
To apply/more information:
Cicero Language International Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01892 - 547077
Email office@cicero.co.uk

Kitchen Assistant

Folkestone
Salary: £5.52 per hour
Closing Date: 7th July 2008
Hours of work 11.00 am - 3.00pm. We are looking to recruit an enthusiastic and committed person. The position would involve washing-up, cleaning and storing deliveries. Also help with preparing food for breakfast and lunch service. Interested applicants should phone Jacqueline Kraft on tel: 01303 224447 or email timothy_hirtes@swissre.com for more detail and application forms.
To apply/more information:
Jacqueline Kraft
Swiss Re
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01303 224447
Email timothy_hirtes@swissre.com

PART TIME CATERER/CHEF

Ashford
Salary: Negotiable
To apply/more information:
Sue Barlow
GSE Group
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01233 506337
Email sue.barlow@gse-group.com

Part-Time Catering Assistants

Aylesford
Salary: £6.36 - £8.30 per hour + £1.27 per hour shift allowance + benefits
Closing Date: 5th July 2008.
To apply/more information:
Waitrose
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email Please apply online at www.jlpjobs.com

Child Care

Pirate Pete / Junior Crew Leaders
Kent
Salary: TBA
Role comprises of costume character work. You will be required to assit with Junior Crew Ledader duties. Contract runs from 22nd July to the 1st September 2008. Successful candidates will be subject to a CRB disclosure. Please send your CV to: Rachel Neary, 6 Square Rigger Row, Plantation, Wharf, Lodon, SW11 3TZ or jobs@livebusiness.co.uk
To apply/more information:
Rachel Neary
Live Business Grosvenor Productions
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email jobs@livebusiness.co.uk

Residential Worker

Deal
Salary: Starting salary (full-time) £16,354
Shift Pattern including weekends & sleep-ins. Knowledge preferred but opportunities available for candidates with a desire to undergo training and a willingness to join our existing dedicated childcare teams. Enhanced payments according to current position. Please contact Personnel Department for an application form: Cheesemans Farmhouse, Alland Grange Lane, Manston, Kent, CT12 5BZ We are an equal opportunities employer.
To apply/more information:
Ethelbert Children's Services
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01843 823762
Email headoffice@ethelberthomes.co.uk

Senior/Residential Workers

Faversham
Salary: Starting salary (full-time) £16,354
Shift Pattern including weekends & sleep-ins. Knowledge preferred but opportunities available for candidates with a desire to undergo training and a willingness to join our existing dedicated childcare teams. Enhanced payments according to current position. Please contact Personnel Department for an application form: Cheesemans Farmhouse, Alland Grange Lane, Manston, Kent, CT12 5BZ We are an equal opportunities employer.
To apply/more information:
Ethelbert Children's Services
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01843 823762
Email headoffice@ethelberthomes.co.uk

Customer Service, Call Centre

CUSTOMER SERVICE ADMINISTRATOR

Gravesend
Salary: TBC
We are looking to recruit an organised, customer focused individual to join us as a CUSTOMER SERVICE ADMINISTRATOR Call us today for more information.
To apply/more information:
Classic Education
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01474 359333
Email office@classiceducation.co.uk

Customer Support Assistants

Kent
Salary: £13,619 - £15,440 p.a.
Closing Date: Various
Open days- Gravesend 9th July 2008 Margate 10th July 2008 Dover 10th July 2008 Tunbridge Wells 10th July 2008 Our Library Service has a lot more to offer than just books. With reading groups, talks and exhibitions, it offers a range of activities for every age group - from Baby Bounce and Rhyme sessions to internet classes for older people. To deliver all this, we need the right people serving our customers. While relevant experience would come in handy, it isn't essential – it's much more important that you're friendly, enthusiastic and approachable. We offer good training and development opportunities, and the chance to work at locations across our area. We've got libraries in towns and villages, as well as mobile facilities and services. If you'd like to find out more, we're hosting Open Days at four different libraries across our area. Book a 20-minute slot, and we'll give you a tour of the library and a mini preliminary interview. To book your slot or to find out more, please call 01622 696517 quoting Open Day.
To apply/more information:
Kent County Council
Quoting Job Ref: Open Day.
Tel: 01622 696517
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Domestic

Cleaner

Broadstairs
Salary: TBC
Excellent rates of pay apply, key holding job, immediate start.
To apply/more information:
Jo
D Brice Company Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 020 8693 4324
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Cleaners

Sevenoaks
Salary: £6.46 per hour
Closing Date: Friday 4th July 2008
To apply/more information:
Staff Services Team
Valence School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 07788421073
Email vacancies@valence.kent.sch.uk

Domestic Assistants - Evenings 15 hours per week, Term Time Only

Broadstairs
Salary: Salary: £3,996
Closing Date: 12 noon, Friday 27th June 2008
15 hours per week, Term Time Only. To undertake general cleaning duties and maintain an acceptable standard of cleanliness and hygiene at Bradstow. For all posts we look for candidates who are mature, practical, flexible and responsible with a patient and caring attitude to deal sensitively with vulnerable children. For an application form and information pack please call 01843 608727 (24 hour recruitment answer machine), or email personnel@bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk. . Please note that CV's will not be considered.
To apply/more information:
Bradstow School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01843 608727
Email personnel@bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk

Sports Pavilion Supervisor Cleaner

Sittingbourne
Salary: tba
required 6 days (incl. w/e) 15/18hrs per wk from 7.30am
To apply/more information:
Brian
UK Paper Leisure Club
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01795 564212
Email admin@ukpleisure.co.uk

Education, Teacher, School

Co-ordinator - Literacy and Numeracy (Basic Skills)

Canterbury
Salary: Starting from £26,365 per annum
Closing Date: Monday 7th July 2008 at 12 noon
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: CO131
Tel: 01227 811282
(24hr answerphone)
Email www.cant-col.ac.uk

Co-ordinator for HE Music provision

Canterbury
Salary: starting from £26,365 per annum
Closing Date: Monday 7th July 2008 at 12 noon
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/89
Tel: 01227 811282
(24hr answerphone)
Email www.cant-col.ac.uk

Cover Supervisor

Aylesford
Salary: Kent Scheme 5 - £16,627 to £18,288 pro rata
Closing Date: 4th July 2008
Kent Scheme 5 - £16,627 to £18,288 pro rata 35 hours per week 39 weeks per year We are seeking a well organised, confidential individual with good communication skills. Responsibilities to include: • Supervise classes when a teacher is absent. • Examination invigilation. • Accompany staff on school trips. • Some administration tasks. Training and career development will be given to the successful candidate. Closing date for applications is Friday 4th July 2008.
To apply/more information:
Jill McKenna
Aylesford School - Sports College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01622 717341
Email jill.mckenna@aylesford.kent.sch.uk

Curriculum Support Assistant Construction

Canterbury
Salary: Starting from £18,375 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 7th July 2008 at 12 noon
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 06/201
Tel: 01227 811282
(24hr answerphone)
Email www.cant-col.ac.uk

DELTA qualified Centre Manager and CELTA qualified EFL Teachers

Tunbridge Wells
Salary: TBC
Required for our Margate centre this summer. For further details please contact Kate.
To apply/more information:
Kate
Cicero Language International Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01843 823771
Email kate@cicero.co.uk

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To advertise in this section or online
01303 817040

EFL and BUSINESS ENGLISH TEACHERS

Ashford
Salary: TBA
EFL & BUSINESS ENGLISH TEACHERS Required at a leading school in Tunbridge Wells Min. cert.T.E.F.L. qualified and degree Please send full CV to Carrie Reay at: academic@cicero.co.uk Cicero Languages International 42 Upper Grosvenor Road Tunbridge Wells, Kent CT1 2ET
To apply/more information:
Carrie Reay
Cicero Language International Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email academic@cicero.co.uk

Higher Education Lecturer in Building Surveying

Canterbury
Salary: £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 7th July 2008 at 12 noon
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 07/28
Tel: 01227 811282
(24hr answerphone)
Email www.cant-col.ac.uk

Higher Education Supply Lecturers

Canterbury
Salary: £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 7th July 2008 at 12 noon
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 811282
(24hr answerphone)
Email www.cant-col.ac.uk

ICT Teacher (part time)

Sevenoaks
Salary: Main teaching scale + SEN allowance
Closing Date: Friday 4th July 2008
To apply/more information:
Staff Services Team
Valence School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 07788421073
Email vacancies@valence.kent.sch.uk

Infrastructure (Network) Team Leader

Canterbury
Salary: Starting from £23,651 per annum
Closing Date: Monday 7th July 2008 at 12 noon
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: NTL1
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email www.cant-col.ac.uk

Keyworkers

Sevenoaks
Salary: Kent Scheme 5 £16,627 - £18,288
Closing Date: Friday 4th July 2008
To apply/more information:
Staff Services Team
Valence School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 07788421073
Email vacancies@valence.kent.sch.uk

KS1 TEACHER

Gravesend
Salary: TBC
We are looking for a creative, enthusiastic, inspirational, innovative, motivated and dynamic person to join our team. If you have a passion for children and teaching and a proven track record of enhancing children's progress and a love of learning and would like to further your career at Raynehurst Community Primary School then please contact our School Manager to arrange an appointment to visit the school. Visits are essential. Any offer of employment for this post will be subject to a satisfactory Enhanced Criminal Record Bureau Disclosure. This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.
To apply/more information:
Mrs Kerr
Rayneshurst Community Primary School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01474 361193
Email carolkerr@raynehurst-primary.kent.sch.uk

Learning Support - Construction and Key Skills

Sheerness
Salary: from £16,364 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 7th July 2008
To apply/more information:
Personnel Office
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/92
Tel: 01227 811282
Email www.cant-col.ac.uk

Lecturer - Public Services

Folkestone
Salary: TBC
Closing Date: 5pm, Monday 30th June 2008
To apply/more information:
South Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: T1325
Tel: 0845 207 8222
(24 hour answerphone)
Email humanresources@southkent.ac.uk

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Lecturer Basic Skills and ESOL (27.75 hrs per week.)

Canterbury
Salary: £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 7th July 2008 at 12 noon
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/90
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email www.cant-col.ac.uk

Lecturer Basic Skills and ESOL (37 hrs per week)

Canterbury
Salary: £17,816 - £25,545 per annum
Closing Date: Monday 7th July 2008 at 12 noon
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/91
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email www.cant-col.ac.uk

Lecturer in Art and Design

Chatham
Salary: £25,092 - £28,719
Closing Date: Friday, 27 June 2008
Mid-Kent College of Higher & Further Education is one of the largest providers of Further Education in Kent with ambitious plans to build on its existing reputation. At a time of unprecedented change the College is looking to recruit professionals to help deliver excellence in the following areas: Lecturer in Art & Design
Salary: £25,092 - £28,719 As a Lecturer in Art & Design you will deliver a range of courses to students. The successful candidate will be expected to design and deliver new courses and contribute to the continuing development of the Art Department. You will have an appropriate Art & Design qualification and hold or be willing to work towards a teaching qualification. The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and vulnerable adults and anyone applying for work with the College is expected to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to an Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure. Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the Personnel department on 01634 845402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number. Closing date: Friday, 27 June 2008 Mid-Kent College is an equal opportunities employer
To apply/more information:
the Personnel department
Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: KS02
Tel: 01634 845402
24 hour answer machine)
Email job.applications@midkent.ac.uk.

Lecturer in Chemistry

Canterbury
Salary: £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 7th July 2008 at 12 noon
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 06/182
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email www.cant-col.ac.uk

Lecturer in Healthcare

Chatham
Salary: Salary: £25,092 - £28,719
Closing Date: Friday, 27 June 2008
Mid-Kent College of Higher & Further Education is one of the largest providers of Further Education in Kent with ambitious plans to build on its existing reputation. At a time of unprecedented change the College is looking to recruit professionals to help deliver excellence in the following areas: Salary: £25,092 - £28,719 The post-holder will be involved in the delivery and teaching of Healthcare programmes. The successful candidate will have proven knowledge and experience within Healthcare environments and have or be willing to work towards a teaching qualification within a specified timeframe. The College is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of young people and vulnerable adults and anyone applying for work with the College is expected to share this commitment. Any offer of employment is subject to an Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure. Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the Personnel department on 01634 845402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number. Closing date: Friday, 27 June 2008 Mid-Kent College is an equal opportunities employer.
To apply/more information:
the Personnel department
Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: KS03
Tel: 01634 845402
(24 hour answer machine)
Email job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

Lecturer in Hospitality and Catering

Canterbury
Salary: £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 7th July 2008 at 12 noon
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/47
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email www.cant-col.ac.uk

Lecturer Key Skills within Early Years and Public Services

Canterbury
Salary: £17,816 - £25,545 per annum
Closing Date: Monday 7th July 2008 at 12 noon
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/39
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email www.cant-col.ac.uk

Media and Public Relations Officer

Canterbury
Salary: Starting from £20,775 per annum
Closing Date: Monday 7th July 2008 at 12 noon
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 08/32
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email www.cant-col.ac.uk

Network Application Technician (Advanced)

Canterbury
Salary: Starting from £20,775 per annum
Closing Date: Monday 7th July 2008 at 12 noon
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: ATA
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email www.cant-col.ac.uk

Network Manager

Aylesford
Salary: KS8 £22,825 - £26,159
Closing Date: 11th July 2008
Aylesford School – Sports College is an innovative forward looking Specialist Sports College. We have a strong community ethos where we put the learner at the heart of everything we do. At Aylesford School – Sports College we can offer you:- • A brand new school. ªOutstanding new facilities in all areas. • A highly regarded CPD programme with personal professional pathways. • A buzzing and vibrant staff who are friendly and keen to help one another and develop their IT skills. We seek to appoint a well qualified, highly skilled, confident and articulate team player who has a number of years experience as a network technician or manager. As a Microsoft and Cisco Academy, we take great pride in our extremely efficient and effective whole-school network. We are therefore looking for a network manager who will play a major role in the ongoing strategic management and development of all our IT systems. For an application pack please contact Miss Jill McKenna or email your request to jill.mckenna@aylesford.kent.sch.uk
To apply/more information:
Jill McKenna
Aylesford School - Sports College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01622 717341
Email jill.mckenna@aylesford.kent.sch.uk

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NURSERY MANAGER

Gravesend
Salary: TBC
Are you an excellent, enthusiastic, energetic and creative person? Have you at least three years experience leading a team of staff? Can you promote high standards and enable all children to achieve? If you have answered yes to all three questions then you could be the person we are looking for. Visits are essential, so if you are interested please contact our School Manager,. Any offer of employment for this post will be subject to a satisfactory Enhanced Criminal Record Bureau Disclosure. This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.
To apply/more information:
Mrs Kerr
Rayneshurst Community Primary School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01474 361193
Email carolkerr@raynehurstprimary.kent.sch.uk

Personalised Care and Inclusion Leader

Sevenoaks
Salary: Kent Scheme 7/8 £20,061 - £26,159
Closing Date: Friday 4th July 2008
To apply/more information:
Staff Services Team
Valence School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 07788421073
Email vacancies@valence.kent.sch.uk

Pre 16 Learning Support

Canterbury
Salary: Starting from £16,364 pro rata per annum
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: 07/17
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email www.cant-col.ac.uk

RE / Humanities Co-ordinator (full time)

Sevenoaks
Salary: Main teaching scale + SEN allowance
Closing Date: Friday 4th July 2008
To apply/more information:
Staff Services Team
Valence School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 07788421073
Email vacancies@valence.kent.sch.uk

Senior Learning Resources Officer

Sheerness
Salary: salary starting from £20,775 per annum
Closing Date: Monday 7th July 2008
To apply/more information:
Personnel Office
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: S3
Tel: 01227 811282
Email www.cant-col.ac.uk

Student Support Assistants

Sevenoaks
Salary: Kent Scheme 3 £13,959 - £15,826 pro rata
Closing Date: Friday 4th July 2008
To apply/more information:
Staff Services Team
Valence School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 07788421073
Email vacancies@valence.kent.sch.uk

Student Support Finance Advisor

Canterbury
Salary: Starting from £14,535 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 7th July 2008 at 12 noon
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: LSF1
Tel: 01227 811282 (24hr answerphone)
Email www.cant-col.ac.uk

Supply Lecturers in Amenity Horticulture
Canterbury
Salary: £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 7th July 2008 at 12 noon
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: S/AH
Tel: 01227 811282
(24hr answerphone)
Email www.cant-col.ac.uk

Supply Lecturers in Dental Nursing

Canterbury
Salary: £17,816 - £25,545 pro rata per annum
Closing Date: Monday 7th July 2008 at 12 noon
To apply/more information:
Canterbury College
Quoting Job Ref: S/DN
Tel: 01227 811282
(24hr answerphone)
Email www.cant-col.ac.uk

Teach English at Home

Margate
Salary: TBA
Could you host and teach one or two students (junior or adult)? Must be suitably qualified/experienced. High standard of accommodation required. Teaching materials, full support and workshop provided. For further information call our Kent organiser.
To apply/more information:
International Language Homestays
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 722882
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Teacher of ICT

Aylesford
Salary: Main Scale
Closing Date: 27/06/2008
Aylesford School – Sports College is an innovative forward looking Specialist Sports College. We have a strong community ethos where we put the learner at the heart of everything we do. At Aylesford School – Sports College we can offer you:- •A brand new school. ªOutstanding new facilities in all areas. ªNQT/ New staff induction package that is second to none. • A highly regarded CPD programme with personal professional pathways. ªYour own laptop. • A buzzing and vibrant staff who are friendly and keen to help one another. • A forward looking curriculum with individualised pathways for students. We are looking for a committed professional who:- • Can motivate pupils through the curriculum. • Has the desire to make the difference. • Is focussed on developing their career further. • Is able to teach ICT at key stage 3, 4 and 5. For an application pack please contact Miss Jill McKenna on 01622 717341 ext 204 or email your request to jill.mckenna@aylesford.kent.sch.uk Closing date is: Friday 27th June 2008 at 12.00 noon.
To apply/more information:
Jill McKenna
Aylesford School - Sports College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01622 717341
Email jill.mckenna@aylesford.kent.sch.uk

TEACHERS

Broadstairs
Salary: TBC
Closing Date: 12 noon, 4th July 2008
To apply/more information:
Bradstow School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01843 608727 (24 hour recruitment answer machine)
Email personnel@bradstow.wandsworth.sch.uk

TEACHING ASSISTANT

Sittingbourne
Salary: Salary Scale: £13636 - £16819 plus benefits
We are looking for a Teaching Assistant to support looked after children in an EBD school setting of small classes. All students are not in mainstream school for a variety of reasons. Hours are 8.30 am to 4.30 pm term time only Experience of working with Special Educational Needs students in age ranges 7 - 16 is an advantage but all life experiences considered.
To apply/more information:
Sharon Cahill
ISP Childcare
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01795 428097
Email Sharon.cahill@ispchildcare.org.uk

TEACHING ASSISTANT

Maidstone
Salary: Gross salary approx £6,709 per annum
Closing Date: 27th June 2008
25 hours per week, term time only. Qualifications an advantage but not essential. Any offer of appointment for post is subject to a satisfactory Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure. Application forms available from St. Katherine's School, St. Katherine's Lane, Snodland, Kent ME6 5EJ.
To apply/more information:
St Katherine's C of E Primary School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01634 240061
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Technician - Wood Occupations

Folkestone
Salary: TBC
Closing Date: 5pm Wednesday 2nd July
To apply/more information:
South Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: S2138
Tel: 0845 207 8222
(24 hour answer phone)
Email humanresources@southkent.ac.uk

Tutor - KCC Project (Learning Disabilities)

Folkestone
Salary: TBC
Closing Date: 5pm,Wednesday 25th June 2008
To apply/more information:
South Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: T1326
Tel: 0845 207 8222
(24 hour answerphone)
Email humanresources@southkent.ac.uk

TUTOR/TEACHERS WANTED

Kent
Salary: tba
Closing Date: 4th July 2008
ISP school and education provision are seeking qualifi ed tutors to work on a self employed basis, term time only. We have centres at Whitstable, Teynham and Rainham where tutors work 1:1 with students whose age range is from 7 to 16. All students are looked after children who are not in mainstream education for various reasons.
To apply/more information:
ISP Childcare
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01795 428097
Email Sharon.cahill@ispchildcare.org.uk

Waking Night Staff

Sevenoaks
Salary: Kent Scheme 3 £13,959 - £15,826 plus unsocial hours enhancement
Closing Date: Friday 4th July 2008
To apply/more information:
Staff Services Team
Valence School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 07788421073
Email vacancies@valence.kent.sch.uk

Engineering, Manufacturing, Utilities

BEMS Controls Engineers

Kent
Salary: tba
To apply/more information:
David Bennett
Feather Brooks Bank
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 08000 12 12 24
Email vacancies@gshgroup.com

Electrical, electronic and fibre optic connectors, cables and systems

Thanet
Salary: TBA
CNC Machine Setters / Programmers – Double Day Shift Thanet Way, Whitstable Amphenol Ltd is an innovative and leading edge manufacturer of both connectors and interconnect systems for applications within the milaero and industrial markets. The successful candidate will have the following: - Either – Served a recognised general engineering apprenticeship training programme supported by a certificate of competence on one of either: Sliding Head and CNC Turning machines. Or Completed a satisfactory internal/external training programme period for CNC Setter Grade B for a period of one year, acquiring the skills necessary to set and programme CNC 1st operation turning machines. Or Shall be able to show previous experience of a comparable standard in this or another company. We also require 1 years experience, at CNC Setter grade B level orequivalent on at least one of the following machines: a. Swiss/sliding head automatic machines b. CNC Machines In return we offer a competitive package.
To apply/more information:
Human Resources Department
Amphenol Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 773390
Email
laurasmith@amphenol.co.uk

Line Leader

Whitstable
Salary: TBC
To apply/more information:
Laura Smith
Amphenol Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 773390
Email
laurasmith@amphenol.co.uk

Workshop Engineer

Sevenoaks
Salary: Negotiable
We are a laboratory instrument manufacturer based in Sevenoaks. We have a vacancy for a self-motivated and practical person to fill a position for an assembly/fabricator Applicants should be flexible and have basic practical electro-mechanical skills. Full training given.
To apply/more information:
LMS Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01732 743901
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

HR, Recruitment

Employer Training Consultant

Kent
Salary: TBA
Closing Date: Tuesday 8th July 2008
To apply/more information:
Human Resources Department
South Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 0845 207 8222
Email humanresources@southkent.ac.uk

Human Resources Officer

Sittingbourne
Salary: c.£21-23k
Closing Date: 1st July, 2008
Demelza Hospice Care for Children provides specialist care and support to children with life limiting conditions and their families. Based from our hospice in Sittingbourne, you will undertake some travel to other sites in Kent, East Sussex and south London, providing generalist support and advice to line managers and employees. With 150 multi disciplinary employees across 3 sites, plus a number of retail outlets, and 750 volunteers, you will be a competent generalist who enjoys the whole spectrum of HR practice and can be innovative to problem solving and thorough in delivery of a number of concurrent projects. Working within a small HR team you will be a strong team player and have some understanding of the charity/voluntary sector with an appreciation for the diversity of disciplines you will be supporting. With a minimum of a CIPD CPP and previous experience in a generalist role, you will enjoy a challenge and be self motivated in keeping your knowledge of all relevant issues up to date, demonstrating recent personal CPD. You will need a driving license, willingness to travel, and an ability to re-prioritize a changing workload. You will need previous experience of recruitment, all aspects of performance management, including appraisal systems, capability and disciplinary issues, contracts of employments, and all aspect of employee relations. Informal visits and chats warmly welcomed with Lavinia Jarrett, Head of Human Resources on 01795 845207. For an application pack contact Recruitment Line on 01795 845295. Visit our website on www.demelzahouse.org Enhanced Disclosure checks by the CRB will be undertaken for successful applicants. Demelza is an equal opportunities employer and operates a no smoking policy. Registered Charity No. 1039651. Rook Lane, Bobbing, Sittingbourne, Kent ME9 8DZ.
To apply/more information:
Lavinia Jarrett
Demelza House
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01795 845295
Email info@demelza.org.uk

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more jobs online
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01303 817040

Recruitment Consultant

Welling
Salary: TBA
To apply/more information:
Clive Wood
Kings Recruitment
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 020 8303 2525
Email clive.wood@kingsrecruitment.co.uk

Training and Development Officer

Chatham
Salary: Support Grade E: £19736 to £25441
Closing Date: 4th July 2008
To apply/more information:
Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01634 845402
(24 hour answer machine)
Email
job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

Industrial, Warehouse, Factory

Food Production Workers

Deal
Salary: £5.52 per hour
Based in Tilmanstone, own transport required. Sunday-Thursday – 7am – 4pm
To apply/more information:
Marta
PMP Recruitment Agency
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 07593 330625
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Information Tech, Internet, Telecoms

ICT TECHNICIAN

Rochester
Salary: £16,217 - £21,421 Pro rata
Closing Date: 7th July 2008
You will work as part of a team of three technicians to oversee all aspects of the school's curriculum network, building and testing applications, liaising with suppliers or providers in fault finding and fixing.The ability to work under pressure and have a flexible approach to your workload is a necessity. 37 HRS PER WK • TERM TIME ONLY. Salary will be according to age and experience and will be paid at Medway grade C1. Please contact Mrs J Freeman for an application form and job specification.
To apply/more information:
Mrs J Freeman
Sir Joseph Williamson's Mathematical School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01634 844008
Email
applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

IT Manager

Ashford
Salary: Negotiable
IT Wizard required to manage, operate, install, monitor and support all IT equipment and activities to provide reliable prompt IT support across the GSE Group (currently 6 servers, 55 PCs and 8 Laptops). The ideal candidate will have relevent experience in a senior IT position and have an excellent knowledge of MS Windows Servers, Sage Server, MS Exchange Enterprise, network back-up & security software, network administration, web applications etc. In addition, an excellent knowledge of MS software packages is required to assist in resolving minor operator problems. The successful candidate will also take charge of the management of our telephone systems, technology based office equipment, CCTV system and building security. This position represents an excellent opportunity for a self-motivated, professional individual. For further information on systems in use or to submit your application with full CV (including salary expectation), please contact

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Mrs. Sue Barlow, HR Manager, GSE Group, Joshna House, Ashford, Kent TN24 0GR or sue.barlow@gse-group.com
Closing date for applications is 23rd June 2008
To apply/more information:
Sue Barlow
GSE Group
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01233 506337
Email sue.barlow@gse-group.com

Insurance, Banking, Finance

Finance Officer

Ashford
Salary: £15,903 - £17,492 (pro rata)
Closing Date: 27th June 2008
37 hours per week, 42 weeks per year Responsible to the Bursar of the whole school procurement, receipt of goods and payment of invoices in our very busy office. Knowledge of FMS6 would be advantageous although training will be provided. The role demands a high level of customer service, a professional telephone manner, accurate IT skills and the ability to multi-task. Pre interview visits are actively encouraged in order for you to meet us and gain an insight into the role. Kent Pay Scheme Band 5 Pts 14-17 £15,903 - £17,492 (pro rata) For further information and an application pack please contact HR Officer Samantha Sullivan at samanthasullivan@ashfordchristchurch.com Telephone: 01233 623465/625613 or Fax: 01233 636861.
To apply/more information:
Samantha Sullivan
Ashford Christ Church
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01233 623465
Email samanthasullivan@ashfordchristchurch.com

Management, Senior Positions

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CONSULTANT

Gravesend
Salary: TBC
We are looking to recruit a self motivated sales professional to join us as a BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT CONSULTANT. Call us today for more information.
To apply/more information:
Classic Education
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01474 359333
Email office@classiceducation.co.uk

Director of Development and Marketing

Kent
Salary: Salary from £45,000 (negotiable plus pension and other benefits)
Closing Date: 6th July 2008
To apply/more information:
KCA (UK)
Quoting Job Ref: 488
Tel: 01795 590635
Email recruitment@kca.org.uk

Operations Manager

Kent
Salary: 34,991 - £42,681 (SCP 43 - 52) (pay award pending)
Closing Date: 13th July 2008
To apply/more information:
Peter Gallagher
KCA (UK)
Quoting Job Ref: 491
Tel: 01795 590635
Email peter@kca.org.uk

Party Planners/ Managers

Broadstairs
Salary: TBC
We need Party Planners/Managers, in your area for fun, flexible work and great earning opportunities. Call Clare Williams (Area Manager) on 07866963110 or 01843 863054 to arrange interview. Full training provided.
To apply/more information:
Clare Williams
Body Shop at Home (The)
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 07866963110
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Section Manager, Catering

Aylesford
Salary: £21,000 - £28,300 + benefits
Closing Date: 5th July 2008
To apply/more information:
Waitrose
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email www.jlpjobs.com

Marketing, Advertising

Marketing Manager

Ashford
Salary: Negotiable
A versatile individual with imagination and flair is required to take control of marketing strategies across the GSE Group. Our diverse business acitivities include Construction, Developments, Haulage & Plant Hire and the successful candidate will develop campaigns and marketing initiatives to increase brand awareness on both an individual company and group basis. This is a new position which will offer the successful candidate a wide scope of responsibilites including budget management, website maintenance, e-marketing and the design and production of leaflets & exhibition materials. This role presents an excellent opportunity for a self-motivated and professional individual. Candidates should have a proven track record in Marketing and be fully conversant in the use of Quark Express, Dreamweaver, Adobe Studio or equivalent. Please state your salary expectation when submitting your CV. Closing date: 23rd June 2008
To apply/more information:
Sue Barlow
GSE Group
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01233 501301
Email sue.barlow@gse-group.com

Product Manager

Ashford
Salary: c£50K
As it continues to grow Adastra is addressing a wider UK market place within the healthcare sector and consequently an experienced Product Manager is required to manage our portfolio of products. An exciting and challenging senior role, this is an opportunity to drive and manage our entire product life cycle from stategic planning and concept to tactical activities. You will report to the Managing Director, and work closely with our Marketing and Development departments. Key responsibilities will be: Specifying market requirements for current and future products. Developing and implementing a company-wide go-to-market plan. Establishing a product marketing plan. Evaluating competition. Post launch and ongoing evaluation of product performance. The successful candidate will be educated to degree level and have strong product management experience preferably in an IT or software enviroment. Knowledge of healthcare would be an advantage but is not a pre-requisite. An accomplished communicator you will have excellent organisational and presentation skills and be able to display sound judgement. Other benefits: Fully expensed company car, 5% pension contributions. Please send your CV and covering letter explaining the attributes you would bring to the role to our HR department by email.
To apply/more information:
Adastra Software Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: KOS
Email hr@adastra.com

Motor Trade, Driver

LGV Class One Drivers

Maidstone
Salary: Good rates of pay
LGV Class One Drivers required for fixed term contract based in Mereworth beginning 1.7.08. Estimated contract duration is 4 months for grain haulage all day work. Good rates of pay with overtime available Mon - Fri. Minimum 2 years driving experience with digi card. Please call 01179 679031.
To apply/more information:
Petrochemical Driver Services Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01179 679031
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

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JobsforKent.co.uk
To advertise in this section or online
01303 817040

Minibus Driver and Maintenance

Sevenoaks
Salary: Kent Scheme 5 £16,627 - £18,288
Closing Date: Friday 4th July 2008
To apply/more information:
Staff Services Team
Valence School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 07788421073
Email vacancies@valence.kent.sch.uk

Service Advisor

Gillingham
Salary: tba
We have a vacancy in our busy service reception for an experienced, reliable and focused Sales Advisor capable of maintaining the goodwill of our customers and building future growth for the business by fulfilling 100% of our customer's expectations. A sound knowledge of computerised point of sale programmes preferably Kerridge Autoline and 1 Link would be an advantage. The successful applicant will be of smart appearance, possess excellent time management skills, an enthusiastic attitude and an aptitude for selling. We offer a competitive salary according to experience and proven ability within a friendly environment. Applications in writing please to: The General Manager, Sherlodge Garage, 26 Hoath Lane, Wigmore, Gillingham, Kent ME8 0SW.
To apply/more information:
Sherlodge Garage
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email john.devine@sherlodgegarage.skoda.co.uk

Transport Operators

Aylesford
Salary: £21,000 - £26,300 + benefits
Closing Date: 5th July 2008.
To apply/more information:
Waitrose
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email Please apply online at www.jlpjobs.com

Vehicle Technicians - Nights

Aylesford
Salary: £402 - £484 per week + £133.98 shift allowance + benefits
Closing Date: 5th July 2008
Join our Regional Distribution Centre and you can share the profits, growth and opportunities that come with the Waitrose success story. Since opening last year, we have grown at a phenomenal rate and as we take responsibility for delivering stock to up to 50 branches in the south of England we're looking to take on more people with the passion to go the extra mile in everything they do. You'll pick up some extremely tasty rewards in return with benefits including pension scheme, discounts at Waitrose and John Lewis, and a profit-sharing scheme that last year amounted to an extra ten weeks' pay. 37.5 hours per week working five nights out of seven, 10pm - 6am You'll carry out servicing, MOTs and repairs to ensure our fleet is maintained to a safe and roadworthy standard in line with VOSA, as well as dealing with all the related paperwork. You should be an experienced mechanic with City and Guilds 1, 2, 3 Vehicle Technician or equivalent, CITB/City and Guilds Refrigeration/Gas Handling, IRTEC and an LGV C+E driving licence. Good communication skills are also important.
To apply/more information:
Waitrose
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email www.jlpjobs.com

Not for profit, Charities

Fundraiser

Sevenoaks
Salary: Remunerated at a percentage of the amount raised
Closing Date: Friday 4th July 2008
To apply/more information:
Staff Services Team
Valence School
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 07788421073
Email vacancies@valence.kent.sch.uk

Nursing, Medicine, Care Work

Care Assistant

Sandwich
Salary: TBA
Upton House, near Sandwich, require a Care Assistant. Hours to be arranged NVQ 2 or equivalent desirable but not essential as training will be given. Please call on 01304 611312
To apply/more information:
Upton House
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01304 611312
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Children's Palliative Care Nurses and Care Assistants

Sittingbourne
Salary: TBC
Closing Date: 26th June, 2008
To apply/more information:
Demelza House
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01795 845295
Email info@demelza.org.uk

Day RSW (Care Worker)

Sevenoaks
Salary: £15,394.86 per annum inc. enhancements
36 hour week on rota over 5 shifts (either early 7.30am to 2.30pm or late 1.00pm to 8.30pm) Benefits include: 6 wks a/l, cont. pension scheme, Healthsure cash back plan, Rockdale t-shirts, meals on duty, parking on site, company sick pay after 6 mths service. Please call Jay Drake on 01732 458762 or Rockdale House on 01732 454763 for a chat/application form. Enhanced CRB/POVA checks will be made for this post.
To apply/more information:
Jay Drake
Rockdale House
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01732 454763
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Exciting Opportunities for Nurses

Kent
Salary: TBA
Company Health Ltd, a leading OH provider, is looking for screening nurses to carry out lifestyle checks for a public sector employer in Kent. No OH experience is necessary as full training will be given. This is a peripatetic role which would be suitable for RNs with an interest in health promotion. The role is available on either a F/T or P/T basis with very competitive rates. This is a great opportunity for RNs looking to get into occupational health as there is potential for progression for the right candidates. If you enjoy working in a close-knit, supportive team, please forward your CV to Ellie Nelson at enquiries-sth@companyhealth.co.uk.
To apply/more information:
Ellie Nelson
Company Health
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 0870 4142 331
Email enquiries-sth@companyhealth.co.uk

FLEXIBANK

Ashford
Salary: TBC
Closing Date: Monday 30th June 2008
To apply/more information:
Kent Autistic Trust
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01634 405168
Email personnel@kentautistic.com

New or Experienced Community Carers

Kent
Salary: TBA
Excellent rates of pay, free training, flexible working hours, free uniform.
To apply/more information:
All Seasons Care Services
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 265899 option 3
Email info@allseasons.org.uk

Practice Nurse

Gravesend
Salary: dependant on experience
Closing Date: 30/6/08
To apply/more information:
Keith Fuller
Downs Way Medical Practice
Quoting Job Ref: Nurse 2008
Tel: 08448151333
Email kfuller@nhs.net

PROJECT WORKER

Deal
Salary: Starting salary: in the region of £17,500
Closing Date: Monday 30 June 2008
37.5 HRS PER WEEK (part-time considered for the right applicant) We are an organisation, funded in part by Social Services, which gives support, advice and information to those over the age of 18 who care (unpaid) for a relative or friend. We are looking for a sensitive, confident and articulate person. The work is mainly office-based. It is a busy and demanding role, with opportunities to develop skills, to be involved in new projects and to champion the role of Carers. Our core work is telephone support, which will include liaising with statutory and non-statutory bodies. Full driving licence and own transport essential. For an application pack, please write to The Manager, Tricia Cole, DDCS, 10 Victoria Road, Deal CT14 7AP. N.B. This is not a care-worker post.
To apply/more information:
Tricia Cole
Dover District Carers' Support
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email applications@jobsforkent.co.uk

Residential Care Worker (Children's Home)

Margate
Salary: TBA
We are looking for people who want to make a difference and join our existing dedicated staff teams caring for disadvantaged children Experience preferred but not essential as full ongoing training will be given. Shift pattern including weekends and sleep-ins. Salary subject to experience. St Nicholas Lodge, 16 Hawley Square, Margate, Kent CT9 5JS.
To apply/more information:
Stephen Payne
St Nicholas Lodge UK Ltd
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01843 232321
Email Stephen@stnicholaslodge.com

Other

Fully Qualified Beauty Therapist

Canterbury
Salary: TBC
Closing Date: 23/06/08
Wanted for a busy Canterbury salon. High proficiency in waxing is essential. For further details please contact Maxine.
To apply/more information:
Maxine
Camomile Rooms
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01227 784847
Email maxine@camomilerooms.co.uk

Public Relations, Media, Journalism

PR OFFICER

Folkestone
Salary: Competitive salary + excellent benefits
Closing Date: 27 June 2008
To apply/more information:
Sally-Jane Plenge
Saga
Quoting Job Ref: SG214/KOS
Email human.resources@saga.co.uk

Public Sector, Social Services

Committee Services Assistant

Gravesend
Salary: **Salary:** Circa £19,000 - £23,000
Closing Date: 7, July 2008.
To apply/more information:
Gravesham Borough Council
Quoting Job Ref: CSA/SH
Tel: 01474 33 70 00
Email customer.services@gravesham.gov.uk

ELECTORAL SERVICES and LOCAL LAND CHARGES ASSISTANT

Folkestone
Salary: £14,127 - £16,092
Closing Date: Friday 4 July 2008
The Electoral Services and Local Land Charges Team is committed to provide a high standard of customer service while delivering statutory functions. We are looking for a person who is able to contribute to and support the work of the two areas, which both work to strict deadlines. The two principal areas of work are; • Assisting with the statutory function of maintenance of the Local Land Charges Register and the receiving, processing and completing of Local Authority land charges searches; • Assisting with the statutory functions of the annual preparation of the Register of Electors, the monthly rolling registration process; the administration of postal and proxy voting and the administration of all types of elections. This is a full time position, 37 hours per week, however during an election period and the annual canvass additional hours may be required and annual leave will be restricted. The successful applicant will be required to be proficient in both areas and be able to work with the minimum of supervision as part of the team successfully delivering these two functions. Both areas operate using specialist computerised packages for which training will be given, however experience in information and communication technology is essential, you must also be able to demonstrate proficient keyboard skills, attention to detail, maintain confidentiality of information and be able to communicate effectively. For application details please email or phone. Alternatively details can be downloaded at www.shepway.gov.uk
To apply/more information:
Valma Page
Shepway District Council
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Tel: 01303 853341
Email jobs@shepway.gov.uk

Lecturer in Performing Arts

Chatham
Salary: £24,361 - £27,897
Closing Date: Friday, 27 June 2008
We currently have an exciting opportunity for a creative and dynamic individual within the Performing Arts department. The successful candidate will be involved with the development of the department, driving forward new ideas and will be able to demonstrate innovative ways of working. You will have a degree in a relevant subject area and experience of teaching in FE would be advantageous. The successful candidate will have or be willing to work towards an appropriate teaching qualification within a specified timeframe. Application forms and further details are available from www.midkent.ac.uk. Alternatively, please e-mail job.applications@midkent.ac.uk. For individuals without access to e-mail or the internet please call the Personnel department on 01634 845402 (24 hour answer machine). In all communication with the College please quote the appropriate job title and reference number.
To apply/more information:
Personnel Department
Mid Kent College
Quoting Job Ref: KS01
Tel: 01634 845402
Email job.applications@midkent.ac.uk

Young Persons' Drug and Alcohol Worker - Dual Diagnosis Project

Thanet
Salary: £21,412 – £26,835 pro rata (SCP 26 – 33)
Closing Date: Friday 27th June 2008
To apply/more information:
Sarah Mills
KCA (UK)
Quoting Job Ref: 490
Tel: (01227) 456744
Email recruitment@kca.org.uk

Retail, Wholesale, Sales

Desk Based Sales Executive

Kent
Salary: Basic 14k+£16k OTE commission (total £30k)
BT Local Business represented by Utopia Enterprise Solutions Ltd A business independently owned and operated by Utopia Enterprise Solutions Ltd., the BT logotype and the Connected World symbol are trademarks of British Telecommunications plc used under licence (by the Licensee). BT Local Business is a successful venture created by BT to provide complete voice, data and computing solutions, coupled with excellent customer service, to local small and medium sized businesses (SMEs). Utopia Enterprise Solutions Ltd is the local independently owned BT Local Business formed to manage and grow the substantial existing BT SME customer base in the North and East Kent area. We are now looking for a successful individual with a proven track record of selling solutions-based IT Services and hardware into the small business environment. A successful candidate will be bright, enthusiastic, very well organised and self motivated. They must also be confident when dealing with customers and will be required to make telephone calls into our extensive customer base. In return we offer: a basic salary, bonus package, excellent career prospects and comprehensive BT accredited training. If you would like to be part of this exciting venture, please send covering letter and CV and to: darren.burton@btlocalbusiness.co.uk or call 01732 873 344 Exciting New Opportunity for Desk Based Sales Executive Basic 14k+£16k OTE commission (total £30k) North and East Kent www.btlocalbusiness.co.uk
To apply/more information:
Darren.burton
BT Local Business
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Tel: 01732 873 344
Email darren.burton@btlocalbusiness.co.uk

Sales Agents

Folkestone
Salary: £16k – £18k OTE (uncapped) + excellent benefits package
Closing Date: 11 July 2008
To apply/more information:
Kerry Harrison
Saga
Quoting Job Ref: SVS222/KOS
Tel: 01303 774888
Email human.resources@saga.co.uk

SALES PERSON

Canterbury
Salary: tba
The Commercial Department at Kent County Cricket Club has a vacancy for a full time sales person who has previous experience of telesales, IT skills and a knowledge of Microsoft office. Based at The St Lawrence Ground in Canterbury, the successful applicant will be expected to sell Kent CCC advertising, cricket related hospitality, and conferencing and non cricket related functions at the Ground. If you are interested please write – enclosing a current CV to: Jon Fordham – Commercial & Operations Director at Kent County Cricket Club, The St Lawrence Ground, Old Dover Road, Canterbury CT1 3NZ or email.
To apply/more information:
Jon Fordham
Kent County Cricket Club
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email jon.fordham.kent@ecb.co.uk

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Kent
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Kent Life
Quoting Job Ref: kos
Email angela.smith@archant.co.uk

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE
APPLICATION FOR A NEW PREMISES LICENCE

We, Shepherd Neame Ltd hereby give notice that we have made an application to the Maidstone Borough Council, London House, 5-11 London Road, Maidstone, Kent. ME16 8HR for variation of the following licensable activities;
1. The hours for sale of alcohol by retail
2. The provision of regulated entertainment
3. The provision of late night refreshment

In respect of the premises situated at Church Road, Hucking, Kent, ME17 1QT known by the sign of Hook and Hatchet

The application can be viewed at the offices of Maidstone Borough Council, London House, 5-11 London Road, Maidstone, Kent, ME16 8HR during normal office hours.

Any person wishing to make representation concerning this application should do so in writing to the above local authority and within 28 consecutive days of the submission of the application, that is no later than 10th July.

It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make a false statement in connection with an application. Any person who makes a false statement is liable on summary conviction to a maximum fine of £5,000.

Stephen Thomas LAW
8 Grassmere, Leybourne, West Malling Kent. ME19 5QP
Authorised Agents for and on behalf of the applicants.

Highways - Borough of Ashford

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(VARIOUS ROADS, ASHFORD) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) (No. 1) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by traffic on Victoria Road and Beaver Road, Ashford (Except for access therein) at their junction with A2042 Romney Marsh Road on or after 23 June 2008, between 19:00hrs and 07:00hrs and Sundays for 24 hours only, for an estimated period of 1 week or until such works are complete, to such extent as shall be indicated by traffic signs.

The alternative route for through traffic traveling from the Town Centre to the A2042 Romney Marsh Road will be via A2042 Station Road, A2042 Wellesley Road, A292 Mace Lane, A292 Hythe Road, Junction 10 Interchange of the M20, A2070 Bad Munstereifel Road, A2070 and A2042 Romney Marsh Road.

The alternative route for through traffic traveling from the A2042 Romney Marsh Road to the Town Centre will be via A2042 Romney Marsh Road, A2070, A2070 Bad Munstereifel Road, Junction 10 Interchange of the M20, A292 Hythe Road, A292 Mace Lane, A2042 Wellesley Road and A2042 Station Road.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(BETHERSDEN ROAD, BETHERSDEN) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008
THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Bethersden Road, Bethersden at Odiam Farm on or after Tuesday 24th June 2008 for a period of up to 7 days or until such works are completed.

The alternative route for the route described above is for eastbound traffic via Potkin Lane, Ashford Road, Biddenden Road, Tenterden Road, North Street and Smarden Road and for westbound traffic vice versa.

EDF Energy Limited apologise for any inconvenience caused by these works, which are necessary to allow for a new electrical supply to Odiam Farm, and should you require any further information about these works, their contact is John Rummery of Murphy Limited on 07920 150893.

Highways - District of Canterbury

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(VARIOUS ROADS, CANTERBURY) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because Carriageway Surfacing works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on various roads, Canterbury as described in column 1 of schedule to this order on 23 June 2008 for an estimated period of four months or until such works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via as described in column 3 of the schedule to this order.

Specified Road	Length of Road Affected	Alternative Routes
B2205 Canterbury Road, Herne Bay	Kings Road approach to roundabout	Canterbury Road, High Street, William Street and Kings Road
Hackington Road/ Radfall Road/ St Stephens Hill, Canterbury	Downs Road to Mill Farm, Thornden Wood	Blean Hill, Tile Kiln Hill, Whitstable Road, St Thomas Hill, Forty Acres Road and Beaconsfield Road (to be supplemented by Tyler Hill Road and Calais Hill). Thornden Wood Road closed at junction with diversion along Molehill Road, Chestfield Road and then South Street, Thanet Way, Clapham Hill, Pean Hill, Honey Hill and Blean Common
St George's Place, Canterbury	Lower Bridge street to Lower Chantry Lane (both sides)	Old Dover Road and Upper Bridge Street
Broad Oak Road, Canterbury	From Vauxhall Road to Kingsmead Road	Vauxhall Road, Sturry Road and Kingsmead Road
Wincheap Green, Canterbury	Complete roundabout	Eastbound - A2 Dover Road, B2046 Adisham Road, A257 Canterbury Road, High Street, The Hill, Canterbury Road, Littlebourne Road, St Martin's Hill, Longport, Lower Chantry Lane and St George's Place Westbound - St Peter's place, St Dunstan's Street, North Lane, St Stephen's Road, Kingsmead Road, Tourtel Road, Military Road, Broad Street and Lower Bridge Street

This order will come into force on Monday 23 June 2008, will be in operation when the appropriate signs are erected, and will remain valid for a period of eighteen months. The order will allow the above mentioned restrictions to be implemented as and when required for works of a similar nature at any time for the duration of the order.

Highways - Borough of Dartford

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
ST VINCENT'S ROAD, DARTFORD (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on St Vincent's Road for its entire length.

The Order will become effective on 7th July 2008, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months, the works are planned to last 4 weeks. These closures and will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the route described above will be via: Temple Hill Square, Temple Hill, Mill Pond Road, Hythe Street, Home Gardens, Overy Liberty, East Hill, The Brent.

The purpose of the Order is to facilitate the construction of a new puffin crossing and the associates kerbing and carriageway works.

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
DARENTH ROAD, DARTFORD (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on Darenth Road, Dartford at its junction with Princes Road for a distance of 15m northwards.

The Order will become effective on 23rd June 2008, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months, works are planned to last for a period of one day on 29th June. These closures will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the route described above will be via: Princes Road, Park Road, East Hill or Princes Road, Lowfield Street, Instone Road, Highfield Road, Westgate Road, Home Gardens.

The purpose of the closure is to resurface the carriageway and undertake other minor maintenance works.

Highways - District of Dover

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(CASTLE HILL ROAD) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because Thin Surfacing and High Friction works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on Castle Hill Road from its junction with Woolcomber Street to its junction with Upper Road on or after 23 June 2008 for an estimated period of six nights or until such works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via Woolcomber Street, A20 Townwall Street, A2 Jubilee Way and A258 Castle Hil Road.

This order will come into force on Monday 23 June 2008, will be in operation when the appropriate signs are erected, and will remain valid for a maximum period of eighteen months. The order will allow the above-mentioned restrictions to be implemented as and when required for works of a similar nature at any time for the duration of the order.

Highways - Borough of Gravesham

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
THE STREET, MEOPHAM (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on The Street, Meopham between its junctions with A227 Wrotham Road and Whitehill Road

The Order will become effective on 23rd June 2008, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months, works are planned to last for a period of up to seven days commencing on 23rd June. These closures will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the route described above will be via: Whitehill Road, Cheyne Walk, A227 Wrotham Road.

The purpose of the closure is to install a new electrical supply.

KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
NEW HOUSE LANE, GRAVESEND (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic on New House Lane, Gravesend between its junctions with Packham Road and Haynes Road.

The Order will become effective on 23rd June 2008, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months, works are planned to last for a period of three days in the following two weeks. These closures will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the route described above will be via: Haynes Road and Packham Road

The purpose of the closure is to resurface and apply high friction surfacing to the carriageway.

Highways - District of Shepway

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(VARIOUS ROADS, SHEPWAY) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because Carriageway Surfacing works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on various roads, Shepway from as described in column 1 of schedule to this order on 23 June 2008 for an estimated period of four months or until such works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via as described in column 3 of the schedule to this order.

Specified Road	Length of Road Affected	Alternative Routes
A260 Canterbury Road, Folkestone	From roundabout with A259 northwards for 700m	A259 Churchill Avenue, A20, A260 Canterbury Road
B2064 Cheriton High Street, Cheriton	Weymouth Road to St Georges Road	B2063 Risborough Lane, Military Road, A259 Sandgate Hill, A2034 Earls Avenue and Cheriton Road
A2033 Bouverie Road, Folkestone	Castle Avenue to Manor Road	Cheriton Gardens, A2034 and Castle Hill Avenue
Sandgate Road, Folkestone	Earls Avenue/ Westbourne Gardens	Earls Avenue and Shorncliffe Road
London Road, Pedlinge	Redbrooks Wood to Pedlinge Court	Ashford Road, Blackhouse Hill, Station Road, Prospect Road, Rampart Road and Military Road
Ross Way	All	No diversion required (cul-de-sac)

This order will come into force on Monday 23 June 2008, will be in operation when the appropriate signs are erected, and will remain valid for a period of eighteen months. The order will allow the above mentioned restrictions to be implemented as and when required for works of a similar nature at any time for the duration of the order.

Highways - Borough of Swale

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(B2231 ROWETTS WAY AND B2231 LEYSDOWN ROAD, SHEERNESS) (50 MPH SPEED LIMIT) ORDER 2008 ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984

NOTICE is hereby given that the Kent County Council has made an Order under Section 84 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, the effect of which has imposed a 50 mph speed limit on B2231 Rowetts Way, Eastchurch and B2231 Leysdown Road, Bayview, Sheerness.

A copy of the Order which comes into operation on Monday 30th June 2008, an explanatory statement and a map showing the details of the scheme can be inspected during normal working hours at Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone Kent, ME14 1XQ and at Swale Borough Council Offices, Swale House, East Street, Sittingbourne, Kent, ME10 3HT.

Anyone may, by application to the High Court within 6 weeks of the date of publication of this Notice, challenge the validity of the Orders or of any provision contained in them on the grounds that it is not within the powers conferred by the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, or of any instrument made there under, or that there has been a failure to comply with any statutory requirement in relation to the Order.

Highways - District of Thanet

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL
(VARIOUS ROADS, THANET) (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2008 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that because Carriageway Surfacing works are proposed to be carried out, the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting traffic on various roads, Thanet as described in column 1 of schedule to this order on or after 23 June 2008 for an estimated period of four months or until such works are complete.

The alternative route for through traffic will be via as described in column 3 of the schedule to this order.

Specified Road	Length of Road Affected	Alternative Routes
Cliff Terrace/ Eastern Esplanade, Margate	Zion Place - Godwin Road	Zion Place, Northdown Road and Cornwall Gardens
George V Avenue, Margate	Junction with Canterbury Road	Hartsdown Road and Canterbury Road

This order will come into force on Monday 23 June 2008, will be in operation when the appropriate signs are erected, and will remain valid for a maximum period of eighteen months. The order will allow the above mentioned restrictions to be implemented as and when required for works of a similar nature at any time for the duration of the order.

For further information, please contact Geoff Mee, Director for Kent Highway Services, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

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Mercedes seeks an edge with its cut-price coupé

IT is perhaps more important to note what the newly launched Mercedes-Benz CLC offers for the money than what it offers for the driver.

For the German brand is pitching the newcomer at the executive coupé market from just £19,920 – a sub-£20,000 price tag really is too tempting if you fancy a sporting car with such a prestige badge on the nose.

M-B no doubt hopes prospective and ambitious buyers will think: "Today a CLC – maybe a 65 grand SL tomorrow?"

However, while the newcomer replaces the ageing C-Class Coupé, the new CLC name tag and some tweaking disguises the fact that much of the old car survives, no doubt to help sustain that 'silly' price.

Nevertheless, Mercedes claims that more than 1,100 components have been added or replaced, so while not exactly a new car, the CLC is dramatically changed.

By **STEVE LOADER**

The most obvious sign of 'evolution' from C-Class Coupé – possibly one of the ugliest coupés of recent years – to CLC is the skilful use of muscular styling cues from the impressive C-Class saloon launched last year.

Mercedes engineers say they have worked especially hard to boost the CLC driving experience, clearly aware of praise heaped upon the new BMW 1-Series Coupé and mindful of the old car's shortcomings.

So, there is a direct-steer system for agile cornering as well as advanced creature comforts for when the car is not being pushed hard.

The CLC remains compact yet still has the tailgate and load carrying versatility of the old coupé – the total 1,100-litre capacity could be its trump card against the booted Beemer.

The interior features sports seats with better lateral support, a Mercedes racing-inspired dashboard, multi-function steering wheel, climate control and brushed aluminium trim as standard.

Engine options for the moment are four, four-cylinder and two, six-cylinder engines with outputs ranging from 122bhp to 272bhp, with the CLC 200 CDI diesel averaging nearly 48.7mpg and destined to soak up company car 'user chooser' demand.

Six-speed manual transmission is standard, with a five-speed auto option for four-cylinder units, and a seven-speed auto available for the C230 and standard on the C350 – Sport versions with auto come with steering paddleshifts for manual selection during sporty driving.

Despite getting long in the tooth, the old C-Class Coupé was a relatively big seller for Mercedes in the UK, so we can expect a good take-up for its successor, especially with such attractive pricing.

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Year	Reg	Model	Eng	Dr	Colour	M/age	£	100 Hour Sale
		ASTRA						
2001	Y	Astra Club*	1.6	5	Polar sea blue	7,6850	2,995	2795
2003	53	Astra Elegance Estate	2.2	5	Rubens Red	42,000	4,995	4695
2005	05	New Astra Sxi Sports hatch	1.6	3	Ultra blue	42,000	7,995	7595
2005	05	Astra Design Est	1.6	5	Star silver	6,675	7,995	7595
2005	05	Astra Exclusiv Convertible	1.8	2	Silver lightening	32,050	8,995	8795
2007	57	New Astra Club Estate CDTi	1.3D	5	Panacotta	7,850	11,995	11695
2007	57	New Astra Club	1.6	5	Peacock	7,725	9,495	9150
2007	57	New Astra Sri CDTi (150ps) X pack	1.9D	5	Moonland	5,250	13,995	13495
2007	57	New Astra Club Auto	1.8	5	Petrol blue	5,285	9,995	9795
		ZAFIRA						
2005	55	New Zafira Life A/c	1.6	5	Flame red	31,650	8,495	7995
		VECTRA						
2001	Y	Vectra CDi Auto*	2.2	5	Satin red	64,000	2,995	2750
2005	05	Vectra Sri	2.2	5	Star silver	30,550	7,850	7295
2007	07	Vectra Design	1.8	5	Star silver	12,650	9,995	9650
2007	57	Vectra Exclusiv + pack	1.8	5	Pomegranate red	4,675	9,995	9795
		OTHER VAUXHALL MODELS						
2007	57	VXR8 Sat Nav	6.0	4	Phantom Black	6,775	32,995	31500
		CORSA						
2001	Y	Corsa Comfort E/T*	1.2	5	Aruba blue	62,300	3,295	2995
2002	02	Corsa Comfort Auto*	1.4	5	Petrol blue	39,000	4,495	4250
2005	05	Corsa Sxi	1.2	3	Silver lightening	24,000	5,695	5395
2007	57	New Corsa Club A/c	1.2	3	Star silver	5,950	7,995	7695
2007	07	New Corsa Club	1.2	3	Ultra blue	6,080	7,695	7495
2007	07	New Corsa Club	1.4	5	Star silver	8,000	7,995	7695
2007	07	New Corsa Club	1.2	3	Air blue	5,800	7,695	7295
2007	57	New Corsa Sxi CDTi	1.7D	5	Star silver	7,325	10,995	10595
		SIGNUM						
2003	03	Signum Elegance*	2.2	5	Oyster	50,375	5,995	5495
2003	53	Signum Elegance Auto	2.2	5	Star silver	36,500	6,350	5995
2004	04	Signum Elite Auto	2.2	5	Black sapphire	22,000	7,995	7495
2004	04	Signum Elegance Auto	2.2	5	Silver	34,850	7,295	6995
2007	57	Signum CDTi Exclusiv Nav	1.9D	5	Star silver	9,950	14,995	13995
		MERIVA						
2004	04	Meriva Life E/T	1.6	5	Star silver	27,600	5,495	5150
2007	57	Meriva VXR	1.6	5	Arden blue	2,680	12,495	11995
		DUE SOON						
2007	57	Astra Club CDTi	1.7D	5	Star silver	TBA	10,295	
2007	57	Astra Energy	1.4	5	Black	4,500	8,695	
2005	05	Corsa Breeze	1.2	3	Silver	32,000	5,595	
2005	55	Corsa Breeze	1.2	3	Silver lightening	20,000	5,695	
2007	56	New Corsa SXI A/c	1.2	3	Black sapphire	19,000	8,395	
2008	57	Corsa Sxi A/c	1.2	3	Black sapphire	TBA	9,295	
2005	05	Zafira Life	1.6	5	Silver lightening	20,000	6,695	

* Non Network Q Vehicle

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The official fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) for the range are: Urban 38.2–27.4 (7.4–10.3), Extra Urban 58.8–44.8 (4.8–6.3), Combined 48.7–37.2 (5.8–7.6). The official CO2 emission figures for the range are 137–182g/km.
Prices include delivery to dealer, number plates, 17.5% VAT, 12 months Government road fund licence and £55 first registration fee. These offers apply to new vehicles ordered by 24th June and registered by 30th June 2008 and are available to private and small business customers only. Cars shown with optional metallic paint an extra £360.All figures correct at time of going to press.

FIRST GEAR

Compiled by Steve Loader

Roadshow rolls into Bluewater

KENT'S huge Bluewater shopping centre is staging a follow-up to last year's successful onsite motor show (pictured).

Motorshow@Bluewater returns to the centre from 3-6 July and will feature 17 different car brands on a display site outside Marks & Spencer.

Headliners will include the first UK public appearance for the Renault Koleos 4x4, ahead of the British International Motor Show later in the month.

Renault will also show a strictly limited-edition Mégane Coupé-Cabriolet 'Giallo' – just six of these sunflower yellow models will reach the UK.

Korean marque SsangYong is a show debutante with its Rexton and Kyron 4x4s and huge Rodius MPV.

VW's elegant Passat CC four-door coupe will also appear (see story below), while dealer Whitmore Chevrolet will offer four tickets to Kent's Brands Hatch race circuit to the winners of a World Touring Car Championship simulator challenge.

The four-day event also features a specialist go-karting area for all ages to race on, remote control cars and other attractions.

Bluewater stores, including John Lewis, House of Fraser, USC and Faith – are also running exclusive offers to tie in with the show.

Dodge starts a journey

DODGE fancies its chances with the bargain-price '5+2-seat' Journey MPV launched in August.

Staring from just £16,995, even the entry level SE comes laden with kit including three-zone climate control, fully-adjustable steering wheel, tyre pressure monitoring, power folding and heated wing mirrors, electric windows and six-disc/MP3 compatible sound system.

A 2.0-litre VW-diesel engine spearheads this new model from the Chrysler Group and UK MD Simon Elliott said: "Dodge Journey is the perfect right-sized vehicle for families that don't want the look of a people carrier, but need the functionality and utility of an MPV."

We say they just need to get the interior quality right.

Passat CC set to tackle big name exec saloons

VOLKSWAGEN'S elegant new Passat CC four-door coupe will be priced from just £21,040 – tempting for such a stunning looking car.

But the junior petrol version is likely to be overshadowed by four 2.0-litre diesel launch versions (from £21,870) and the 3.6-litre V6 petrol flagship (£31,120).

The Passat CC opens a new market niche for Volkswagen where there is precious little real opposition. In reality, four-door executive saloons are likely to be its biggest rivals and the car's generous standard kit will surely play a major role.

This includes sports suspension, 17-inch alloys, dual-zone climate control, touch-screen sound system with six-disc autochanger, six-way electrically adjustable sports seats, multi-function leather steering wheel, six airbags and electronic stability control.

The all-new Mazda2.
Competition? What competition...

The all-new Mazda2 is a compact supermini, with a stylish design, nimble handling and excellent responsiveness as well as outstanding fuel economy and low CO_2 emissions. And as the winner of the World Car of the Year Award 2008, the all-new Mazda2 leaves other supermini cars trailing behind.

mazda

Model	All-new Mazda2	Nissan Micra	Peugeot 207	Renault Clio
Version Name	1.3 5dr TS²	1.4 Acenta+	1.4 S	1.2 Expression
OTR price	£10,009	£10,045	£10,445	£10,915
CO_2	129	154	158	137
Fuel consumption - mpg (l/100km)*	52.3 (5.4)	44.8 (6.3)	44.8 (6.3)	43.9 (5.9)
Auxiliary jack for MP3 connectivity	✓	✗	✗	✗
Folding electric mirrors	✓	✗	✗	✗
Thatcham Category 1 alarm	✓	✗	£200	RRIB alarm
Leather steering wheel and gear knob	✓	✗	✗	✗
Manual air conditioning	✓	✓	✓	£525
Airbags	6	4	6	4

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ZOOM-ZOOM

The official fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) for the all-new Mazda2 petrol range: Urban 37.2 (7.6) - 40.9 (6.9), Extra Urban 57.6 (4.9) - 61.4 (4.6), Combined 47.9 (5.9) - 52.3 (5.4).
CO_2 emissions (g/km) 129 - 140.

Model shown: Mazda2 1.3 5dr TS². OTR price £10,009 with optional metallic paint (£350) and accessory front foglights (£164.97). On the road prices include VAT, number plates, delivery, 12 months' road fund licence, 1st registration fee, 3 year or 60,000 mile warranty and 3 years' European Roadside Assistance. *Combined fuel consumption figures. Standard specification table data taken from respective manufacturers' websites as at 11 April 2008. Prices and specification correct at time of going to print.

'T' word admission boost to Daihatsu

TestDriving by STEVELOADER

DaihatsuSirion

DAIHATSU is on the march in the UK just as small cars gain ground with cash-strapped motorists – city car and supermini sales soared 180 per cent in May against the same month in 2007.

The Japanese brand's new ambition is evident in a much improved range, fresh dealer appointments including Cheriton Motor House at Folkestone, and greater use of the 'T' word – Toyota.

Both sides used to be coy about Toyota's controlling interest in its smaller compatriot, but the vow of silence has been lifted; neither side now shies away from revealing that the Daihatsu Sirion supermini is underpinned by bits from the Yaris – Toyota's own contestant in this class – even if they are quite different on the outside.

While the Yaris is aerodynamic – a factor that helped secure a major green award this week – the Sirion is utilitarian, yet there is real beauty in the way that this amazingly compact, bargain-price (from £7,495 with air con as standard), easy-parking, five-door car delivers so much within a 'footprint' on the road 20mm shorter than Ford's baby, the three-door Ka.

The lofty body also offers passenger space to rival the 23mm longer and significantly dearer Honda Jazz and carries and secures five people properly, while split rear seats fold flat easily to create a cube-like house-moving load bay or two other permutations.

The rake of the rear rests can also be set to two positions and the car is packed with stowage bins and cubby holes.

But the driving experience is perhaps the biggest surprise; the three-cylinder 1.0-litre driven previously is the economy star of the Sirion range, averaging around 55mpg and emitting just 118g/km of CO2, thereby qualifying for just £35/year road tax.

However, it is sluggish and noisy, so a better all-rounder is the four-cylinder 1.3 (from £7,995) tested here; it is more refined and flexible with decent low-down power, yet averages nearly 50mpg even if road tax jumps to the next band (£120/year) due to emissions of 137g/km.

However, this version uses 'nanotechnology' in the world's first self-regenerating catalyst and while I'm still unsure how it works, it is said to last longer and cut maintenance costs.

And you can have some fun too… economically. For the Sirion has an impressive 'European' chassis tuned for suppleness and stability' and Daihatsu's blurb is not exaggerating.

With the greater power and refinement of the willing 1.3 I found myself happier to exploit the chassis on a decent road than when I took the wheel of the 1.0-litre version; grip and stability is exceptional for a car with such tall bodywork.

The vagueness of the five-speed gearbox needs getting used to, but this Sirion manages to be both entertaining and sensible, though I suggest you avoid the 'blue rinse blue' shade used on the test car.

There is also a 1.5-litre Sirion, but I question its relevance to what the model is about: a small and economical car with big car abilities.

Okay, its might sound like a Noddy motor, but bulbous wheelarches and a rakish window line give extra presence and a set of alloys – standard on the dearer SE spec – would undoubtedly boost street cred.

DrivingStats

- Daihatsu Sirion 1.3S £7,995
- Range: £7,495-10,295
- Garage stats: 3.6m by 1.66m five-door hatchback
- Powertrain: 1,298cc/90bhp four-cylinder petrol engine driving front wheels through a five-speed manual gearbox
- Performance: top speed 106mph and 0-62 in 11 seconds
- How green?: road tax band-C (£120/yr), CO2 emissions/137g per km
- Official fuel figures: combined 48.7mpg
- Euro NCAP safety rating (0-5 stars): ****
- Fuel tank: 40 litres/8.8gallons
- Insurance group: 6
- Warranty: five years/unlimited miles
- Website: www.daihatsu.co.uk
- Rivals: Chevrolet Aveo, Citroën C1, Fiat Panda, Hyundai i10, Kia Picanto or Rio, Mazda2, Mitsubishi Colt, Nissan Micra, Perodua Kelisa or Myvi, Peugeot 107, Proton Savvy, Renault Clio Campus, Skoda Fabia, Subaru Justy, Suzuki Swift, Toyota Aygo, Vauxhall Agila and VW Polo.

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GR07FSF	GOLF 1.4 TSI 140 SPORT 3DR	Man	Reflex Silver	1	08/06/2007		£13,450	£12,700	750
GR07JKF	GOLF 2.0 TDI SPORT	Man	Diamond Black	1	20/06/2007		£14,450	£13,950	500
GP07ZXF	GOLF PLUS 1.9 TDI LUNA	Man	Diamond Black	1	04/06/2007	11796	£11,950	£10,450	1500
KU07JRO	PHAETON 3.0 TDI	Auto	Black	1	16/05/2007	7098	£27,850	£27,100	750
AD07ZBO	PHAETON 3.2 V6 4MOTION	Auto	Grey	1	21/06/2007	2399	£25,950	£24,450	1500
GP57DFE	POLO GP 1.4 S AUTO 5DR	Auto	Olympic Blue	1	31/01/2007		£9,950	£9,700	250
GL06OTP	GOLF 1.9 TDI SE 5 DR	Man	Shadow Blue	1	14/07/2006	16546	£11,950	£11,700	250
GY55HFG	GOLF PLUS 1.9 TDI SE DSG	Auto	Shadow Blue		01/09/2005	11796	£11,950	£11,200	750
WF07ETZ	GOLF 1.6 FSI MATCH	Man	Steel Grey	1	29/03/2007	4300	£12,950	£12,200	750
AD07HGF	GOLF 1.9 MATCH TDI 5 DR	Man	Steel Grey	1	25/05/2007	17100	£12,950	£12,450	500
GY05MLZ	PASSAT EST 1.9 TDI 130 HIGHLINE	Auto	Shadow Blue		31/03/2005	24200	£11,950	£10,950	1000
V10DVW	PHAETON 5.0 V10 TDI	Auto	Grey	2	09/03/2004	51200	£24,950	£23,450	1500
OY56ADV	TOUAREG 3.0 V6 TDI SE AUTO	Auto	Reflex Silver	1	29/11/2006	17345	£24,950	£23,950	1000
OV07WBZ	TOUAREG GP 2.5 TDI SE AUTO DPF	Auto	Reflex Silver	1	01/06/2007	6968	£24,900	£23,900	1000
CX57XRH	GOLF ESTATE 1.9 TDI S	Man	Mineral Grey	1	17/09/2007	14000	£13,950	£13,200	750

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08 (08) Lancer GS4 2.0 DID 4Dr, Red
08 (08) Lancer GSRSST 300 LTR, 4Dr, Red
08 (08) Lancer GSR 300, 4Dr, Red
08 (08) Outlander 2.2 Diamond, Red
07 (57) L200 Warrior, Tow Bar, Rear parking, Liner, Grey
07 (57) L200 Warrior, Tow Bar, Rear parking, Liner, Grey
07 (57) L200 Animal, Tow Bar, Rear parking, Liner, Grey
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Lancer 1.6 Equippe 4Dr Auto, Deep Blue Mica
Colt 3Dr 1.1 CZ1 Manual, Spicy Red
Colt 3Dr 1.1 Black Hawk, Sparkling Black
Shogun SWB 3.2 DI-DC Equippe Auto, Sterling Silver
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Lancer 2. DI-D GS4Dr, Manual, Stone Grey
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L200 2.5 DI-D Raging Bull, Sports Bar, Aztec Red
L200 2.5 DI-D Warrior DC, Liner, Gas Lift, Parking, Tow Bar, Starlight Silver
L200 2.5 DI-D Warrior DC, Graphite Grey
L200 2.5 DI-D 4Work Single Cab, Cosmos Black
Lancer 1.6 Equippe 4Dr Auto, Cool Silver
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DrivingReview

by STEVELOADER
CHIEF DRIVING CORRESPONDENT
steve.loader@kosmedia.co.uk

KiaSportage

Sportage shows 4x4 times are a changin'

WANT to now how quickly times have changed?

Here's what I wrote in 2005 after road testing the then newly-launched Kia Sportage 4x4: "Anti-4x4 campaigners can moan as much as they like, but the drive towards off-roader style vehicles seems unstoppable."

But they are being stopped; new registrations are a fifth down on last year and used market values are plummeting.

Time to eat humble pie and mutter about unforeseen circumstances: soaring oil prices, sound evidence of global warming that even George W Bush cannot ignore, plus 'Brownian' economic policies that have mired the country so badly that we now need a fiscal Land Rover to drag us out.

Not that a government volunteer would take the wheel, since this administration hates cars – except for taxing and being driven in.

Anyway, enough about being up to our axles in muck – where does this leave diehard 4x4s fans? Probably looking again at the Kia Sportage, because it is still one of the smaller and more acceptable SUVs (sports utility vehicles) as car makers now prefer to call most 4x4s.

It has a further edge in the form of front-wheel drive only versions that, in theory, should deliver the style and high driving position of a standard model, but deliver better fuel consumption and generally lower running costs.

Fact is the saving is negligible in the case of the 2.0-litre petrol 2WD versus its 4x4 sister, while the runaway best-selling 2.0-litre diesel is available in 2WD only with a four-speed auto 'box so it ends up actually averaging 5mpg less than the 4x4 equivalent, which should manage around 40mpg.

Crackers? Not entirely so, since the 2WD/diesel/auto combination actually turns the Sportage into the perfect vehicle for people who fuelled the 4x4 explosion in the first place: they don't need to go off-road, but they do want something that looks rugged and safe, has a commanding view of the road, delivers MPV-style flexibility and is a doddle to drive – the auto 'box is seamless.

Best of all, two-wheel drive Sportages start at just £13,995, although a diesel auto calls for an additional £2,200, and transferring production from Kia's Korean home turf to a state-of-the-art plant in Slovakia means the car now comes with a market-leading seven-year/100,000-mile warranty – it is a car you can buy and keep without worrying.

The Slovak move also coincided with a facelift that smoothed rough edges – no wonder Kia is confident of boosting Sportage sales by 30 per cent.

Handling is vastly improved; the Sportage was always competent even if it lolled in comparison with its obvious target, Toyota's RAV4, but Kia has tidied things up and improved the ride.

Steering and braking efficiency is also better, while cabin refinement is much improved.

Most importantly, the Sportage is roomier and airier than many rivals. Passengers in the rear get a great deal: acres of legroom, excellent headroom and partially reclining seat backs – great for napping and fitting child seats.

Three people can be accommodated across the back and there is a proper seat belt for 'piggy in the middle'.

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good visibility and logical controls and there is plenty of stowage space.

The factory fit stereo is a vast improvement and the indicator stalk is now on the left/Continental side, now more familiar to UK buyers even if it is traditionally 'wrong' for countries driving on the left.

Luggage capacity is one of the best at this level with 60/40 split folding rear seats allowing a fully flat load floor. A dual purpose tailgate adds to load flexibility; one handle allows the entire tailgate to be lifted, while another allows the windscreen glass to hinge upwards.

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DrivingStats

- Test Car: Kia Sportage 2.0 CRDi XS Auto (2WD) £17,695
- Range: £13,995-19,195
- Garage stats: 4.35m by 1.84m five-door 4x4 SUV
- Powertrain: 1,991cc/138bhp four-cylinder turbodiesel driving front wheels through a four-speed auto gearbox
- Performance: top speed 108mph and 0-62 in 15.1 seconds
- How green?: road tax band-F (£210/yr), CO2 emissions/210g per km
- Official fuel figures: combined 35.3mpg
- Fuel tank: 58 litres/12.76 gallons
- Insurance group: 10
- Warranty: seven years/unlimited miles
- Website: www.kia.co.uk
- Rivals: Chevrolet Captiva, Citroën C-Crosser, Daihatsu Terios, Dodge Caliber, Fiat Sedici, Ford Kuga, Honda CR-V, Hyundai Tucson, Jeep Patriot or Compass, LandRover Freelander, Mitsubishi Outlander, Nissan Qashqai or X-Trail, Peugeot 4007, Renault Koleus, Subaru Forester, Suzuki SX4 or Grand Vitara, Toyota RAV-4, Vauxhall Antara and VW Tiguan

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THE OFFICIAL FUEL CONSUMPTION FIGURES IN MPG (l/100km) FOR THE KIA cee'd RANGE ARE : URBAN: 31.7 (8.9) - 49.6 (5.7). EXTRA URBAN: 48.7 (5.8) - 67.3 (4.2). COMBINED: 40.9 (6.9) - 60.1 (4.7). OFFICIAL CO2 EMISSIONS ARE 125 - 165g/km. the KIA PICANTO RANGE ARE: URBAN: 38.2 (7.4) - 45.6 (6.2). EXTRA URBAN: 58.9 (4.8) - 64.2 (4.4). COMBINED: 48.7 (5.8) - 55.4 (5.1). OFFICIAL CO2 EMISSIONS ARE 123 - 138g/km. THE RIO RANGE ARE (l/100km): URBAN: 28.5 (9.9) - 49.6 (5.7). EXTRA URBAN: 50.4 (5.6) - 68.9 (4.1). COMBINED: 39.2 (7.2) - 60.1 (4.7). OFFICIAL CO2 EMISSIONS ARE 121 - 171g/km. the KIA CARENS range ARE: URBAN: 25.4 (11.1) - 36.2 (7.8). EXTRA URBAN: 40.9 (6.9) - 54.3 (5.2). COMBINED: 33.6 (8.4) - 46.3 (6.1). OFFICIAL CO2 EMISSIONS ARE 163 - 201g/km. THE KIA SPORTAGE RANGE ARE: URBAN: 21.4 (13.2) - 31.7 (8.9). EXTRA URBAN: 34.4 (8.2) - 45.6 (6.2). COMBINED: 28.2 (10.0) - 39.8 (7.1). OFFICIAL CO2 EMISSIONS ARE 187 - 237g/km. Vehicles are shown for illustration purposes only. These offers supersede all previously advertised offers. Prices correct at time of going to press. Offers are subject to availability. Licenced credit brokers, written details available on request, finance is subject to status. E&OE. *Money for free fuel will be paid by cheque and only up to the amount stated in this advert.

AUDI

A2, 1.4 SPORT 5dr, 03/10/2002, cd player abs alarm driver airbag power steering immobiliser cruise control electric windows, silver, 58488 miles, £6499, Invicta Motors, Ramsgate, 01843 853555 (TRADE)

A3, 2.0 TDI (140) SPORT 3dr, fv53otm, alarm, immobiliser, remote central locking, colour coded interior, sports seats, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, power steering, stability control, trip computer, abs, multiple airbags, colour coded body, front fog lamps, metallic paintwork, rear spoiler, rear wash/wipe, electric front windows, electric mirrors, dual climate zones, cd player, alloy wheels, metallic grey, 64000 miles, £10490, AR Cars, Kent, 01342 851122 (TRADE)

A3, - 1.8 T SPORT 3dr, 1067649, audi a3 1.8 t sport 3dr hyundai hyundai ashford drake & fletcher red, 2003, 27000 miles, manual, petrol, 3 doors, 1 previous owners, red, £8495, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

BMW

318 SE SALLOON, 2002, 02 ((face lift) 4 door saloon, 143 bhp, immaculate grey trim, full service history (just serviced) manual gear box, traction control, cruise control, remote central locking, alarm, air con,alloy wheels metalic grey, 102, 000 miles, £7695, Riviera Car Sales, Folkestone, 01303 244244 (TRADE)

5 SERIES, 520I SE, lg51olo, remote alarm, remote central locking, head restraints, rear headrests, power steering, abs, air bag, electric mirrors, electric windows, cd player, metallic paintwork, colour coded body, multi-function steering wheel, air conditioning, climate control, multi-disc cd player, cruise control, parking sensor, auto-dip rearview, traction control, trip computer, 17'' alloys, titan silver met, 95000 miles, £5999, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

CADILLAC

CTS, CTS 3.6 SPORT LUXURY V6, 2005, light platinum with black leather, 22379 miles, £12950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

CHEVROLET

CAPTIVA, LTX 2.0, gk08orw, finished in denim blue with black interior, blue, 4000 miles, £22995, caffyns chevrolet t wells, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 515700 (TRADE)

KALOS, SX, gj56cty, finished in red with interior, red, 17000 miles, £4989, Caffyns Tunbridge Wells Vauxhall, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 515700 (TRADE)

CHRYSLER

300C, 5.7V8 AUTO ESTATE, 2007, crystal met, 10577 miles, £18950, Martin James Cars, Kent, 01795426700 (TRADE)

NEON, RT 16V, fy02 kxu, front fog lamps, remote central locking, alarm, rear headrests, rear spoiler, full leather, height adjustable seat, electric front windows, electric windows, traction control, radio cassette, cd player, air conditioning, twin air bags, adjustable steering column, abs, power steering, alloy wheels, silver, 57200 miles, £2695, Kings Highway Garage Ltd, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

CITROEN

CITROEN BERLINGO 800, 04 2005, 1.9d lx side door white pas 43.000 miles fsh lined, £4350, Beaver Commercials, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

C1, 1.4 HDI RHYTHM 5dr, 2007, 1.4 hdi rhythm 5dr diesel hatch, grey, 3300 miles, £7995, Barretts Citroen, canterbury, 0845 3709768 (TRADE)

C2, 1.4I COOL 3dr, 2007, 1.4i cool 3dr hatch sp eds, poseidon blue, 1500 miles, £6995, Masters Citroen, Penge, 0208 659 0909 (TRADE)

XSARA, 2.0 HDI 110 LX 5dr Auto, 2002, 2.0 hdi 110 lx 5dr auto diesel hatch, grey, 37000 miles, £3995, Wilmoths Ashford, Ashford, 01233 640100 (TRADE)

XSARA, 1.6I 16V SX 5dr, 2002, 1.6i 16v sx 5dr hatch, silver, 30795 miles, £3995, Wilmoths Folkestone, Folkestone, 01303 245 588 (TRADE)

DAEWOO

DAEWOO NUBIRA 4 door saloon, 06 2000, 1.6 p se mot july 08, 0 miles, £500, Beaver Commercials, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

DAIHATSU

CHARADE, 1.0 SL 5Dr Hatchback, 07/2004, a/con alloy wheels electric windows central locking pas, champagne, 11, 000 miles, £3995, Cheriton Motor House, Folkestone, 01303 275795 (TRADE)

COPEN, ACTIVETOP 1.3, 08/2008, red leather interior pas remote central locking rear spoiler dual exhaust pipes a/con electric windows rear wind deflector front fog lights sports seats, grey metallic, delivery miles miles, £12370, Cheriton Motor House, Folkestone, 01303 275795 (TRADE)

FIAT

FIAT DUCATO 11 mwb, 11 2005, 2.3 jtd hi top 39.000 miles fsh shelved lined one owner driver £6495, Beaver Commercials, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

COUPE, 2.0 16V, 1995, red, 72451 miles, £1995, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

GRANDE PUNTO, abs, air bag, twin air bags, electric front windows, cd player, rear wash/wipe, central locking, immobiliser, azzurro psychedelic, 23151 miles, £5998, AutoPlanet Maidstone, 0845 871 5185 (TRADE)

IDEA, 1.4 ACTIVE 5dr, gl54kww, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, central locking, cloth upholstery, colour coding body, driver airbag, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, radio/cd. insurance group:5, blue, 34500 miles, £3994, SMC Mitsubishi Sittingbourne, Sittingbourne, 0844 5762476 (TRADE)

FORD

FORD CONNECT T200, 03 2006, 1.8 tddi swb white 16.000 miles, £5995, Beaver Commercials, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

FORD CONNECT T200, 11 2005, 1.8 tddi swb white side door 67.000 miles fsh, £4995, Beaver Commercials, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

KA, 1.3I STYLE 3dr, gf04yjl, driver airbag, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, power assisted steering, radio/cassette, exterior body kit. insurance group:2, silver, 33213 miles, £3990, SMC Ford Crayford, Crayford, 0844 4999792 (TRADE)

MAVERICK, 2.0 XLT 5dr, ae02ukg, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, central locking, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, electric sunroof, foglights, folding rear seats, lumbar support, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, roof rails, radio/cassette, side airbags, rear headrests, traction control. insurance group:9, green, 36059 miles, £4990, SMC Ford Crayford, Crayford, 0844 4999792 (TRADE)

MONDEO, 1.8 TDCI ZETEC 5dr [6], ly57akg, blue tooth voice control, climate controlled air conditioning, rear park assist, tyre pressure monitor, zetec pack, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, electric mirrors, electric windows. insurance group:7, grey, 4516 miles, £16990, SMC Ford Crayford, Crayford, 0844 4999792 (TRADE)

MONDEO, 2.0TDCI 130 ZETEC 5dr Auto (2005 - 2005), 13/11/2007, cd player abs leather hood cover alarm driver airbag power steering immobiliser cruise control electric windows, silver, 11257 miles, £16500, Invicta Motors, Canterbury, 08444 992321 (TRADE)

MONDEO, 2.0TDCI 130 LX 5dr [6], 11/09/2005, cd player abs alarm power steering immobiliser cruise control electric windows, grey, 34345 miles, £8500, Invicta Motors, Canterbury, 08444 992321 (TRADE)

HONDA

ACCORD, - 2.2 I-CTDI SPORT 4dr, 421649, honda accord 2.2 i-ctdi sport 4dr honda honda Tunbridge Wells drake & fletcher black, 2007, 4444 miles, manual, diesel, 4 doors, 1 previous owners, black, £18995, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

ACCORD, SALOON 2.2 I-CTDI SPORT Manual (Diesel), 453649, metallic paintwork, honda accord 2007 saloon 2.2 i-ctdi sport manual (diesel) honda honda ashford drake & fletcher alabaster silver metallic, 2007, 13360 miles, manual, diesel, 4 doors, 1 previous owners, silver, £14450, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

CIVIC, - 1.7I CTDI Se 5dr, 846649, honda civic 1.7i ctdi se 5dr honda honda ashford drake & fletcher blue, 2005, 23000 miles, manual, diesel, 5 doors, 1 previous owners, blue, £7950, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

CIVIC, - 1.6 I-VTEC SE 5dr, 849649, honda civic 1.6 i-vtec se 5dr honda honda ashford drake & fletcher blue, 2004, 34050 miles, manual, petrol, 5 doors, 1 previous owners, blue, £7450, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

HYUNDAI

ACCENT, 1.6 CDX, 2002, silver, 25201 miles, £4995, Morris Forshaw, Maidstone, 01622 750 442 (TRADE)

AMICA, 1.1 CDX, 2006, aqua tint, 14000 miles, £4995, Morris Forshaw, Maidstone, 01622 750 442 (TRADE)

AMICA, - 1.1 CDX Auto, 1294649, hyundai amica 1.1 cdx auto hyundai hyundai ashford drake & fletcher blue oynx, 2008, 10 miles, automatic, petrol, 5 doors, 1 previous owners, blue, £6770, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

AMICA, - 1.1 ATLANTIC 5dr, 1237649, hyundai amica 1.1 atlantic 5dr hyundai hyundai ashford drake & fletcher black, 2008, 500 miles, manual, petrol, 5 doors, 1 previous owners, black, £4995, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

COUPE, - 2.0 SIII 3dr, 1243649, hyundai coupe 2.0 siii 3dr hyundai hyundai ashford drake & fletcher silver, 2007, 11138 miles, manual, petrol, 3 doors, 1 previous owners, silver, £13495, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

ISUZU

RODEO, DENVER MAX Double Cab, bg56lmf, immobiliser, central locking, adjustable steering column, power steering, abs, metallic paintwork, air conditioning, due in soon, alloy wheels, 4x4, maroon, 10545 miles, £13000, Van Zone Tunbridge Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 0844 8446528 (TRADE)

RODEO, DENVER MAX Double Cab, bf56eyb, central locking, immobiliser, abs, adjustable steering column, alarm, cd player, electric front windows, front fog lamps, air bag, power steering, alloy wheels, 4x4, blue, 17710 miles, £13000, Van Zone Tunbridge Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 0844 8446528 (TRADE)

JAGUAR

SOVEREIGN, 4.0 Saloon 4d 3980cc auto, p 1997, electric windows, electric mirrors, remote central alarmed locking, air conditioning, radio cassette system, cruise control, cream interior leather, electric seats, memory seats, alloy wheels, front fog lamps, colour coded body, lots of service history. metallic silver/grey, miles, £3995, Westbrook Cars, Canterbury, 01227 710685 (TRADE)

X-TYPE, 2.0D SE Saloon 4d 1998cc, 04 2004, speed box, full jaguar service history, cd/radio, ivory leather trim, electric windows, central locking, power assisted steering, cruise control, electric mirrors, air conditioning, front and rear heated screens, airbags, abs, front fog lamps, alloys, immaculate condition, metallic pacific blue, miles, £12995, Westbrook Cars, Canterbury, 01227 710685 (TRADE)

X-TYPE, 2.5 V6 SE Saloon 4d 2495cc, 52 2002, 1 owner, service history, electric windows, central locking, power assisted steering, cruies control, electric mirrors, air conditioning, on board telephone controls, radio cassette, 6 stack, cd system, volume and radio contorls on steering wheel, front and rear heated screens, air bags, abs, front fog lamps, alloy wheels, immaculate condition, ivory leather trim, gold, 19000 miles, £10995, Westbrook Cars, Canterbury, 01227 710685 (TRADE)

JEEP

GRAND CHEROKEE, 1997, green, 180000 miles, £2995, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

KIA

CARENS, 2.0 CRDI LS [7 Seat] Diesel, 2007, insurance group 10 abs alarm alloy wheels body coloured bumpers climate control cruise control drivers airbag electricdoor mirrors electric sunroof folding rear seats front electric windows front fog lights heated door mirrors height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser passenger airbag power steering radio/cd rear electric windows remote central locking reverse parking aid roof rails side airbags steering wheel rake adjustment trip computer, pure silver, 13110 miles, £12495, Masters Bromley Kia, Beckenham, 0208 662 6133 (TRADE)

PICANTO, 1.1 ICE ME, 2008, delivery mileage only remote central locking front electric windows abs air conditioning power steering alarm radio/cd, metallic black, miles, £6995, Masters Bromley Kia, Beckenham, 0208 662 6133 (TRADE)

RIO, 1.5 CRDI GS Diesel, 2005, insurance group 4 abs air conditioning body coloured bumpers central locking drivers airbag folding rear seats front electric windows height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser passenger airbag power steering radio/cd steering wheel rake adjustment, clear silver, 30255 miles, £6495, Masters Bromley Kia, Beckenham, 0208 662 6133 (TRADE)

LAND ROVER

DEFENDER, SANTANA PS10 Pick Up, gn55fem, immobiliser, power steering, tow pack, cd player, 4x4, ifor williams canopy. road tax is £180 per year on this vehicle. metallic green, 2000 miles, £9995, Diesel Centre, Staplehurst, 01580 890333 (TRADE)

DEFENDER, 110 TD5 County Station Wagon, gl03myr, remote alarm, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, power steering, tow pack, electric front windows, alloy wheels, 4x4, 9 seater. road tax is £210 per year on this vehicle. metallic red, 14000 miles, £17995, Diesel Centre, Staplehurst, 01580 890333 (TRADE)

FREELANDER, 1998, met green with beige, 91644 miles, £3250, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

FREELANDER, gd52gnn, remote central locking, alcantara leather, head restraints, power steering, electric front windows, sunroof, cd player, colour coded body, rear wash/wipe, radio, electric mirrors, air conditioning, 15'' alloys, 4x4, black, 48000 miles, £4499, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

FREELANDER, 1093649, land rover freelander 2.0 td4 hse station wagon 5dr auto mazda mazda maidstone drake & fletcher silver, 2006, 17000 miles, automatic, diesel, 5 doors, 1 previous owners, silver, £12889, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

LEXUS

GS300, SE, 503461, remote alarm, central locking, full leather, electric seats, air bag, abs, power steering, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, cd player, climate control, electric windows, electric mirrors, 15'' alloys, blue, 120000 miles, £2999, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

GS300, SE, 511461, full leather, cd player, climate control, metallic paintwork, colour coded body, head restraints, rear headrests, abs, air bag, radio, electric windows, electric mirrors, power steering, immobiliser, remote alarm, electric seats, 16'' alloys, grey, 90000 miles, £6999, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

MAZDA

323, 2.0 SPORT 5dr [AC], 26/07/2002, cd player driver airbag power steering immobiliser electric windows, black, 62385 miles, £3800, Invicta Motors, Canterbury, 08444 992321 (TRADE)

323, - 2.0 SPORT 5dr [ac], 1167649, mazda 323 2.0 sport 5dr [ac] mazda mazda maidstone drake & fletcher green, 2001, 42000 miles, manual, petrol, 5 doors, 3 previous owners, green, £3789, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

MAZDA5, - 2.0 Ts2 5dr, 1230649, mazda mazda 5 2.0 ts2 5dr mazda mazda ashford drake & fletcher silver, 2007, 5564 miles, manual, petrol, 5 doors, 1 previous owners, silver, £11990, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

MAZDA5, - 2.0D Ts2 5dr, 1273649, mazda mazda 5 2.0d ts2 5dr mazda mazda ashford drake & fletcher grey, 2008, 3500 miles, manual, diesel, 5 doors, 1 previous owners, grey, £14990, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

MX-5, - 1.8I EUPHONIC 2dr, 1173649, mazda mx-5 1.8i euphonic 2dr mazda mazda maidstone drake & fletcher red, 2004, 59000 miles, manual, petrol, 2 doors, 1 previous owners, red, £7995, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

RX8, - 190 NEMESIS, 993649, metallic paintwork, mazda rx-8 190 nemesis mazda mazda ashford drake & fletcher copper red met, 2007, 11701 miles, manual, petrol, 4 doors, 1 previous owners, red, £14490, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

RX8, - 190PS, 1074649, mazda rx-8 190ps mazda mazda ashford drake & fletcher black, 2007, 4275 miles, manual, petrol, 4 doors, 2 previous owners, black, £14995, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

MERCEDES-BENZ

230 SPORT KOMPRESSOR, 1998, fantastic car with full ivory leather interior.full sport pack. lilac/blue, 57, 000 miles, £5999.00, Bob Fisher Garage, Ashford, 01303 814131 (TRADE)

A CLASS, A170 ELEGANCE SE new shape, 1505077, remote alarm, remote central locking, centre armrest, rear headrests, multi-function steering wheel, power steering, traction control, abs, multiple airbags, auto lighting, front fog lamps, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, electric mirrors, electric windows, air conditioning, cd player, 16'' alloys, always over 60 mercedes-benz cars in stock! we will not be beaten on price! fully fsA regulated, saturn red metallic, 26000 miles, £9995, DW Leisure Mercedes Benz Specialist, Welling, 0208 8548037 (TRADE)

C CLASS, - C200 SE Sports, 1317649, metallic paintwork, mercedes-benz c class c200 se sports hyundai hyundai ashford drake & fletcher met blue, 2004, 44000 miles, automatic, petrol, 2 doors, 2 previous owners, blue, £11490, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

SPRINTER, 311 CDI 4-mtre LWB, 683182, cloth upholstery, ply-lined, side load door, barn doors, dual passenger seat, high roof, power steering, abs, white, 49000 miles, £12745, Clearways Commercials, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

SPRINTER, 311 CDI 4-mtre LWB, ly06jut, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, bulkhead, ply-lined, side load door, barn doors, dual passenger seat, adjustable steering column, power steering, stability control, traction control, abs, air bag, electric windows, cd player, white, 31000 miles, £15495, Clearways Commercials, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

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SAAB 9-3

2002 52	**SAAB 9-3 2.0t Vector**, 4 Door, Met Grey. ABS, Adjustable steering, Alloys, Cruise control, Electric pack, Traction control, Climate control	£7,495

SAAB 9-5

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2003 03	**SAAB 9-5 2L Vector**, Merlot Red, Manual, Estate, ABS, Traction Control, Cruise Control, Alloys, Roof Rails	£6995
2003 03	**SAAB 9-5 2.3 Hot Areo**, Manual, Silver, ABS, Traction Control, Cruise Control, Climate Control, Alloys	£4995
2001 Y	**SAAB 9-5 2.3T SE**, Manual, Silver, ABS, Traction Control, Cruise Control, Climate Control, Alloys	£3995
2003 03	**SAAB 9-5 2L Vector**, Merlot Red, Manual, Estate, ABS, Traction Control, Cruise Control, alloy Wheels, Roof Rails	£6995
2002 02	**SAAB 9-5 2L Arc**, Automatic, Silver, Estate, ABS, Alloy Wheels, Roof Rails	£5495
2003 03	**SAAB 9-5 2.3 Hot Areo**, Manual, Silver, ABS, Traction Control, Cruise Control, Climate Control, Alloy Wheels	£4995
2001 (Y)	**SAAB 9-5 2.3T SE**, Manual, Silver, ABS, Traction Control, Cruise Control, Climate Control, Alloy Wheels	£3995

SAAB 900

1992 J	**SAAB 900 2.0i 16v XS**, Manual 5 speed, Hatchback, Petrol, Reg, Met Grey. Alloy wheels, 1 Owner	£1,995

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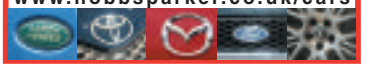

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MG

MGF, x253xke, alarm, central locking, immobiliser, locking wheel nuts, half leather, head restraints, lumbar support, sports seats, power steering, electric front windows, air conditioning, radio cassette, alloy wheels, silver green, 26612 miles, £4495, Saunders Abbott, Sidcup, 020 8300 2450 (TRADE)

MGTF, 1.8 135 16V 2dr, 10/06/2002, grey, 44396 miles, £5300, Invicta Motors, Canterbury, 08444 992321 (TRADE)

TF, 115 SPORTS, ao04xgs, electric front windows, radio cassette, air bag, abs, power steering, cloth upholstery, alloy wheels, silver, 15700 miles, £6495, Kings Highway Garage Ltd, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

MITSUBISHI

MITSUBISHI L 200, 09 2006, 2.5 td d-id 4 life 4x4 pick up air con 9.000 miles day cab met blue, £9625, Beaver Commercials, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

CARISMA, 1.9 TD DI-D Elegance 5dr, cv53szo, abs, adjustable seats, adjustable steering column/wheel, air conditioning, alloy wheels, central locking, computer, cruise control, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, leather seats, lumbar support, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, rear armrest, radio/cd, rear headrests. insurance group:10, blue, 49039 miles, £4994, SMC Mitsubishi Sittingbourne, Sittingbourne, 0844 5762476 (TRADE)

COLT, 1.3 CZ2, 2006, abs air conditioning alloy wheels audio remote control body coloured bumpers central locking drivers airbag folding rear seats front electric windows front fog lights height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser passenger airbag power steering radio/cd steering wheel rake adjustment trip computer, lunar silver, 12000 miles, £6499, Masters Group Mitsubishi Bromley, Beckenham, 0208 6587122 (TRADE)

COLT, 1.5 SPORT, 2004, black, miles, £6995, Masters Group Mitsubishi Bromley, Beckenham, 0208 6587122 (TRADE)

LANCER, EVOLUTION X 2.0 GSR FQ-300 4dr SST, gn08nuw, adjustable steering column/wheel, alloy wheels, climate control, computer, driver airbag, electric mirrors, electric windows, foglights, front armrest, head restraints, headlight washers, immobiliser, navigation system, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, rear armrest, remote locking, side airbags, radio/cd, rear headrests, sports seats, traction control. insurance group:19, red, 2500 miles, £29994, SMC Mitsubishi Erith, Erith, 0844 5762449 (TRADE)

NISSAN

NISSAN PRIMASTAR 2700 SE, 092006, 1.9 dci 100 swb elec windows 6 speed cd blue 5.000 miles as new, £9695, Beaver Commercials, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

ALMERA, S 5dr, w874ugh, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, head restraints, power steering, air bag, metallic paintwork, colour coded body, rear wash/wipe, electric windows, stereo, blue, 23000 miles, £2999, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

MICRA 1.0 TEMPEST, 2002 (52), 02 (52) nissa micra 1.0 "tempest" 5 door hatch, nice metallic blue coachwork with contrasting grey fleck trim, service history, only 59000 miles, long mot, power steering, sun roof, air bags, original hi-fi, only group 3 insurance and low tax group, ideal first car £2995, metallic blue, £2995, Riviera Car Sales, Folkestone, 01303 244244 (TRADE)

NAVARA, DCI, bd56nce, remote alarm, cloth upholstery, centre armrest, adjustable steering column, power steering, abs, air bag, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, electric windows, cd player, 3-person rear seat, privacy glass, side steps, head restraints, 17'' alloys, 4x4, load liner. aluminium silver, 40000 miles, £10495, Clearways Commercials, Sevenoaks, 01474 853034 (TRADE)

PEUGEOT

PEUGEOT BOXER 350, 06 2005, 2.8hdi lx lwb ht top fwd elec pack white 55.000 miles fsh, £6495, Beaver Commercials, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

PEUGEOT EXPERT 815, 09 2005, 1.9d 3 seats twin doors 40.000 miles lined met silver, £6400, Beaver Commercials, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

106, XN 3dr, 438461, cloth upholstery, rear wash/wipe, air bag, radio cassette, red, 72000 miles, £1299, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

106, INDEP 1., gf02vkb, finished in orange with interior, orange, 27000 miles, £3495, caffyns chevrolet t wells, Tunbridge Wells, 01892 515700 (TRADE)

206, - 1.6 S 2dr Tip Auto, 1219649, peugeot 206 1.6 s 2dr tip auto black, 2003, 64000 miles, automatic, petrol, 2 doors, 2 previous owners, black, £5989, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

206, GTI 3dr, 472461, remote central locking, half leather, head restraints, power steering, abs, air bag, auto lighting, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, cd player, air conditioning, electric windows, uk supplied, 16'' alloys, blue, 52000 miles, £4999, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

307, 2003, blue, 39000 miles, £4995, WJ King Vauxhall, Woolwich, 020 8854 8161 (TRADE)

307 CC, 2.0, 2005, metalic red, 18000 miles, £9995, Morris Forshaw, Maidstone, 01622 750 442 (TRADE)

RENAULT

RENAULT KANGOO 1.5 CDI 80, 03 2004, authentique 5 seater red 50.000 miles fsh, £3495, Beaver Commercials, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

CLIO, EXTREME 4 DYNAMIQUE 16V 3dr, gy05mgv, remote central locking, remote alarm, cloth upholstery, abs, air bag, traction control, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, radio, cd player, air conditioning, electric windows, electric mirrors, alloy wheels, aluminium silver, 16881 miles, £5295, Saunders Abbott, Sidcup, 020 8300 2450 (TRADE)

CLIO, 1.2 16V EXTREME 3dr, gf07zrd, adjustable steering column/wheel, alloy wheels, computer, driver airbag, electric windows, head restraints, folding rear seats, immobiliser, passenger airbag, power assisted steering, remote locking, side airbags, radio/cd. insurance group:2, black, 6800 miles, £6994, SMC Mitsubishi Erith, Erith, 0844 5762449 (TRADE)

MEGANE, OASIS 1.4, 2005, trim: cloth engine size: 1400 transmission: manual no. of doors: 5, blue, 31000 miles, £6995, Palm Bay, Margate, 01843 298554 (TRADE)

ROVER

200, 216 CABRIOLET, 1997, grey, 0 miles, £1295, County Car Sales, Dover, 01304 242324 (TRADE)

25, SEI 16V 5dr, hy05 ukm, front fog lamps, rear headrests, rear wash/wipe, remote central locking, alarm, immobiliser, height adjustable seat, adjustable steering column, cd player, radio, air conditioning, air bag, abs, power steering, electric windows, electric mirrors, cloth upholstery, alloy wheels, red, 10800 miles, £4995, Kings Highway Garage Ltd, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

SAAB

9-3, LINEAR TID 1.9, oct 2004 gf54wdc, two previous keepers, power steering, remote central locking, air conditioning, electric windows, 6 speed gearbox, full service history, radio/cd player, twin & side airbags, abs brakes, engine immobiliser, car alarm, on-board computer, tinted glass, adj. steering column, seat height adjuster, alloy wheels. silver metallic, 32, 000 miles, £9, 495, Hollis Motors, Dover, 01304 206710 (TRADE)

SEAT

ALHAMBRA, SX TDI 1.9 130PS 5dr MPV, mar 2004 gj04wlg, one previous keeper, power steering, remote central locking, climate control, front electric windows, 6 speed gearbox, full service history, radio/cassette, single cd player, twin & side airbags, abs brakes, engine immobiliser, car alarm, cruise control, electricdoor mirrors, cool box, tinted glass, rear wash/wipe, adj. steering column, seat height adjuster, seven seats, 2 x integrated child seats. indigo blue metallic, 46, 500 miles, £11, 795, Hollis Motors, Dover, 01304 206710 (TRADE)

ALHAMBRA, 1.9 TDI PD SE 7 Seat 5dr Auto, 09/10/2003, cd player driver airbag power steering immobiliser electric windows, silver, 92000 miles, £8000, Invicta Motors, Canterbury, 08444 992321 (TRADE)

IBIZA, 1.4TDI PD Reference Hatchback 3dr, 08/2008, pas electric windows c/locking fog lights a/con alloy wheels & much more!!!, black magic, 1, 000 miles, £9495, Cheriton Motor House, Folkestone, 01303 275795 (TRADE)

IBIZA, STYLANCE 1.4 85PS 5dr, june 2007 gl07lzw, one previous keeper, power steering, remote central locking, climate control, front electric windows, 5 speed gearbox, full seat service history, radio/cd player, twin airbags, abs brakes, engine immobiliser, on-board computer, electricdoor mirrors, front fog lamps, tinted glass, rear wash/wipe, adj. steering column, seat height adjuster, split rear seats, alloy wheels. black magic metallic, demo miles miles, £9, 695, Hollis Motors, Dover, 01304 206710 (TRADE)

LEON, 2006, luna grey, 13250 miles, £12495, WJ King Vauxhall, Bromley, 020 8464 3456 (TRADE)

LEON, - 1.8 20V T CUPRA 5dr, 1149649, 5dr 2002, 57000 miles, manual, petrol, 5 doors, 2 previous owners, black, £5989, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

TOLEDO 1.9 TURBO DIESEL, 2002 (02), 4 door, service history, 71000 miles, traction control, pas, ew, em, air conditioning, many air bags, remote central locking, alarm immobilizer, original 6 pack cd hi-fi, alloys, metallic blue, £4395, Riviera Car Sales, Folkestone, 01303 244244 (TRADE)

SKODA

FABIA, COMFORT 16V 5dr, lx51npd, central locking, immobiliser, remote central locking, power steering, abs, air bag, air conditioning, electric front windows, cd player, radio, rear wash/wipe, alloy wheels, all of our vehicles are supplied with 12months warrenty and 12months mot, blue, 49872 miles, £4495, Saunders Abbott, Sidcup, 020 8300 2450 (TRADE)

FABIA, ELEGANCE 16V 5dr, lx51exj, alarm, immobiliser, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, height adjustable seat, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, twin air bags, abs, traction control, power steering, parking sensor, electric front windows, air conditioning, alloy wheels, all of our vehicles are supplied with 12 month warrent and 12 months mot, orange, 41215 miles, £4795, Saunders Abbott, Sidcup, 020 8300 2450 (TRADE)

SMART CAR

SMART, 0.6 PULSE Hatchback 3d 599cc Semi-Automatic (2002), 04, triproric 6 speed.fun and cheap car.s/history, cd player, e/windows etc, black, 37, 000 miles, £4444.00, Bob Fisher Garage, Ashford, 01303 814131 (TRADE)

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FORESTER, XE, bt56wnv, anti-theft system, remote central locking, full leather, height adjustable seat, head restraints, cruise control, multi-function steering wheel, power steering, abs, multiple airbags, front fog lamps, rear wash/wipe, electric mirrors, electric windows, climate control, electric sunroof, cd player, alloy wheels, 4x4, aluminium silver, 20 miles, £15000, Lifestyle Subaru Tunbridge Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 0844 8446514 (TRADE)

IMPREZA, TURBO 2000 4WD, x302nse, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, power steering, abs, air bag, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, electric mirrors, electric windows, cd player, stereo, 16'' alloys, 4x4, blue, 65000 miles, £5999, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

IMPREZA, WRX-STI TYPE Uk, ef02vhz, remote central locking, head restraints, air conditioning, abs, power steering, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, cd player, electric mirrors, electric windows, uk supplied, central locking, immobiliser, locking wheel nuts, remote alarm, cloth upholstery, velour trim, centre armrest, height adjustable seat, sports seats, rear armrest, adjustable steering column, stability control, traction control, child locks, twin air bags, electric front windows, radio cassette, rear spoiler, 17'' alloys, 4x4, blueblack, 74000 miles, £8499, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

JUSTY, 1.0 R, central locking, cloth upholstery, folding rear seats, power steering, multiple airbags, metallic paintwork, electric front windows, air conditioning, cd player, silver, 12 miles, £7995, Lifestyle Subaru Tunbridge Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 0844 8446514 (TRADE)

LEGACY, RE SPORTS TOURER 4WD, gj08ora, anti-theft system, remote central locking, full leather, electric seats, rear headrests, adjustable steering column, cruise control, power steering, trip computer, abs, multiple airbags, front fog lamps, headlamp jetwash, metallic paintwork, rear wash/wipe, xenon headlamps, electric windows, powered folding mirrors, dual climate zones, electric sunroof, multi-disc cd player, alloy wheels, 4x4, silver, 10 miles, £17495, Lifestyle Subaru Tunbridge Wells, Tunbridge Wells, 0844 8446514 (TRADE)

SUZUKI

ALTO, 1.1 GL Hatchback 5dr, 54/2005, pas central locking electric windows, bright red, 15, 000 miles, £3895, Cheriton Motor House, Folkestone, 01303 275795 (TRADE)

ALTO, 1.1 GL Hatchback 5dr, 05/2005, pascentral locking electric windows, black, 37, 000 miles, £3895, Cheriton Motor House, Folkestone, 01303 275795 (TRADE)

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TOYOTA

TOYOTA HI LUX 4X4 d4d, 07 2005, 2.5 tdi crew cab pick up 5 seater met silver air/con 53.000 miles fsh new tyres, £7995, Beaver Commercials, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

AVENSIS, T3-S VVT-I AUTO, ly03fbe, remote alarm, cloth upholstery, power steering, electric mirrors, electric windows, air conditioning, abs, head restraints, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, cd player, radio, rear armrest, rear headrests, retractable headrests, central locking, adjustable steering column, satellite navigation, twin air bags, 16'' alloys, aluminium silver, 60000 miles, £5299, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

AVENSIS, 1.8 GS VVT-I 5 DOOR HATCH, 2000 (x), 00 (x) toyota avensis 1.8 gs vvt-i 5 door hatch, stunning metallic blue coachwork with contrasting grey velour trim, low mileage, service history, long mot, pas, ew, em, sat navigation, remote locking, alarm, air bags, original hi-fi, only 1 former keeper, only £3995 now £3395, Riviera Car Sales, Folkestone, 01303 244244 (TRADE)

AYGO, 2005, abs drivers airbag folding rear seats full size spare wheel isofix child seat anchor points pas passenger airbag remote central locking side airbags steel wheels steering wheel rake adjustment, grey, 25531 miles, £5495, WJ King Vauxhall, Rochester, 01634 723723 (TRADE)

CELICA, VVTi, 2006, red, 20000 miles, £11495, Morris Forshaw, Maidstone, 01622 750 442 (TRADE)

CELICA, SR, remote central locking, cloth upholstery, head restraints, power steering, abs, air bag, colour coded body, metallic paintwork, air con, cd player, radio, 17'' alloys, aluminium silver, 65000 miles, £2999, Marshams, Maidstone, 01622 200 100 (TRADE)

TVR

350I TASMIN (WEDGE), 1989 (f), 89 (f) tvr 350i convertible, stunning dark met blue coachwork with contrasting cream leather sports trim with blue piping, black mohair soft top, huge ground up nut and bolt restoration with all photo's to prove, no expense spared, big brake conversion, goodrich hoses etc, original service books, ew, em, quality cd hi-fi, alloy wheels, only 3 former keepers. sounds absolutely awesome!! summer bargain at £5995 many more quality pre-owned cars for sale on: www.rivieracarsales.co.uk, metalic blue, 70, 000 miles miles, £5995, Riviera Car Sales, Folkestone, 01303 244244 (TRADE)

VAUXHALL

VAUXHALL ASTRA SPORTIVE, 06 2007, 1.9 cdti 120 bhp met silver cd lined air/con 6 speed 24.000 miles fsh, £8395, Beaver Commercials, Ashford, 01233 634763 (TRADE)

ASTRA, - 1.7 CDTI 16V SRI [100] 5dr, 1191649, vauxhall astra 1.7 cdti 16v sri [100] 5dr mazda mazda maidstone drake & fletcher silver, 2006, 42500 miles, manual, diesel, 5 doors, 1 previous owners, silver, £7989, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

ASTRA, - 1.8I 16V LIFE 5dr Auto, petrol, 5 doors, 1 previous owners, blue, £5990, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

CORSA, CLUB 16V 3dr, ly02bvj, rear wash/wipe, rear headrests, central locking, power steering, cloth upholstery, stereo, electric front windows, silver, 59000 miles, £3495, Kings Highway Garage Ltd, Plumstead, 020 8855 4000 (TRADE)

CORSA, 2008, black sapphire, 0 miles, £8995, WJ King Vauxhall, Swanley, 01322 662890 (TRADE)

VECTRA, SRI 2198cc 5 door, 2005, cd player air conditioning alloy wheels central locking approved driver's airbag power steering history check electric windows, star silver, 30550 miles, £7850, Pomphrey's of Sittingbourne, Sittingbourne, 01795 476222 (TRADE)

VECTRA, - 1.9 CDTI EXCLUSIV [150] 5dr, 1301649, vauxhall vectra 1.9 cdti exclusiv [150] 5dr hyundai hyundai ashford drake & fletcher silver, 2007, 18873 miles, manual, diesel, 5 doors, 2 previous owners, silver, £9995, Drake and Fletcher Honda, Tunbridge Wells, 0845 130 4298 (TRADE)

VECTRA, 1.9 CDTI EXCLUSIV [120] 5dr, gj07mrx, diesel, black, 29500 miles, £8994, SMC Mitsubishi Erith, Erith, 0844 5762449 (TRADE)

ZAFIRA, 2005, star silver, 40725 miles, £5995, WJ King Vauxhall, Farningham, 01322 862366 (TRADE)

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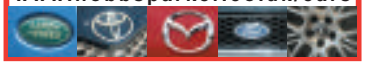

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Talk of recession is foolish but Government needs to act now

By **TONY PATEY**
tony.patey@kosmedia.co.uk

KENT'S economy is bracing itself to ride out the bumpy downturn. And businessmen around the county are asking some tough questions and demanding the Government pulls out its finger.

They are keen to ride rough times ahead by getting the best out of potential future opportunities and staff – and local property experts are calling for a national-level kick-start to the housing and commercial property market.

Confederation of British Industry (CBI) South East regional director Malcolm Hyde warns: "Although the picture varies from sector to sector, economic conditions in the South East are getting tougher. However, firms are showing the sort of resilience that has seen the region ride out the economic storms of the past. All the indications are the region's economy will continue to grow over the next couple of years, albeit more slowly, so it would be foolish to talk ourselves into recession.

"For the moment, falling consumer confidence is badly affecting sectors such as consumer goods industries, the housing market and the second-hand car market.

"The service sector in general is holding up and manufacturing companies are holding their own, helped by strong export demand.

Burden

"The main problem hitting many companies is the significant rise in the cost of energy and raw materials. The result is a squeeze on profits as companies find they are unable to pass increased costs on to their customers.

"There is not a lot the Government can do proactively in these circumstances.

"What the business community needs is a government that doesn't make things worse, either by accident or design, by adding its own brand of uncertainty to the environment or, for example, by increasing business taxes or the regulatory burden on firms."

Meantime, at Business Link, the advisory service which last year helped a record 23,000 Kent companies and assisted a further 2,500 people who were considering starting a business, its customer service manager Jennifer Bentley, said: "We are currently getting quite a few calls regarding legislation affecting businesses, including requests for information on employment law.

"The most popular topics include how to employ someone for the first time – a sign that companies are taking on new staff – and calculating holiday entitlement, which is not surprising given the time of year.

And Kent property experts RPC Land and New Homes said the Government needed to do much more to help re-ignite the UK property market.

Managing director Peter Randall said: "Interest rates, a lack of confidence, stamp duty thresholds, HIPs and mortgage availability are all slowing the housing market and in turn has a large knock-on effect to all businesses.

"The housing market needs a steady flow of sales and the Government must play a larger role in helping to kick-start things.

"The property world is constantly being reminded about government targets in terms of the number of new houses needed to be built, yet market conditions are not encouraging such an increase and more must be done to help.

"Raising stamp duty thresholds, speeding up the planning process and a sensible review of greenbelt policy would be a good start."

New partnership keen to expand established company

MEDWAY-based Greyfox Estate Agents is celebrating 21 years of successful business by being taken over by local two businessmen keen to invest and expand.

Former managing director of The Kings Ferry travel group Steve O'Neill and Greyfox partner Paul Tilley have each bought a 50 per cent stake in the operation.

Mr O'Neill, who successfully negotiated the £8 million sale of The Kings Ferry based in Gillingham to National Express, has since been seeking an investment in a respected Kent company with growth potential.

He said: "I'm hoping the business acumen I've acquired over many years at The Kings Ferry will be of considerable benefit to Greyfox."

Paul Tilley has been with Greyfox since its early days. He is a highly qualified estate agent and a fellow of the National Association of Estate Agents.

He said: "My experience at Greyfox has enabled me to gain a thorough understanding of the business and the Kent market. Now as a director, it's exciting to be able to introduce new initiatives to further enhance our services for customers."

The firm has just launched its 24/7 text service which allows potential buyers to access property details on their mobile phones at only usual operator charges.

Mr Tilley said: "If you were passing one of our properties for sale and liked the look of it, you can text Greyfox to 84840 straight away – it's very easy to use.

"The technology pinpoints your location and instantly sends you the basic home details and price. It's also possible to receive photographs and obtain a link to our website www.greyfox.co.uk."

Greyfox's headquarters are in Medway and it has a total of five district offices, employing 35 staff.

DUO: Paul Tilley and Steve O'Neill

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Charlie tagged as role model

By **TONY PATEY**
Business Editor

A TEENAGE tycoon stormed one of Kent's most prestigious business calendar events.

Schoolboy Charlie Artingstoll became the youngest-ever winner at the Kent Business Awards when he received a special award for Entrepreneurial Merit.

Charlie, of Upper Harbledown, near Canterbury, set up his eco-friendly wooden tag business, Timbertags, two years ago when he was just 14. He supplies, among other things, plant labels and place names for 'green' weddings.

He said: "I go out of my way to ensure that all the wood from my tags is from recycled sources, which I get from a huge variety of local firms ranging from joineries to guitar makers.

"Using their waste results in less wood being burned or ending up in landfill.

"I'm very environmentally conscious and donate a percentage of the profit from orders to the Kent Wildlife Trust. I have also won a Kent environmental business award, for the most imspirational business."

Robin Fegan, Kent Business Award director, said: "Charlie is a fantastic role model and we hope his success will give confidence to other young people with entrepreneurial ambitions."

PageSuite, the business associate of KOS Media which developed the ground-breaking page-turning technology for the e-editions featured on our website, was also a winner at the event and took the Innovation in Business award. It was organised by Priory PR and Events and hosted by Meridian TV's Sangeeta Bhabra.

WELL DONE: Business Link's Bob Jones with young Charlie Artingstoll

Companies in the spotlight included Hadlow College (Kent Large Company of the Year); Robert O'Connor from Howletts and Port Lympne Wild Animal Parks (Kent Business Person of the Year); Faversham brewer Shepherd Neame (Corporate Social Responsibility Award) and Sweeep Recycling of Sittingbourne (Best New Business Award). Royal British Legion Industries of Aylesford secured an outstanding double triumph by winning the Social Care Award and the Judges' Award for Excellence, as the best all-round company selected from the finalists.

For more than 80 years RBLI has been helping people with physical or mental disability across the county to find work.

It won a Pathways to Work contract from the Government to enable it to expand its services to help more people into meaningful and long-term employment.

Other winners were: Regent Development Ltd, Dartford (Kent Small and Medium-sized Company of the Year); Bussroot, Beltring, Paddock Wood (Creative Industries Award); Computer Tel, Gravesend (Customer Service Award) and Sota Solutions, Kent Science Park, Sittingbourne (Technology Award).

Expanding need for space

NEW markets opening up and the growth of red tape have led to a boom in the business storage trade.

One of the firms to benefit has been Kent Space in Chatham, which runs a self-storage and business centre.

Suzanne Knowles of Kent Space said: "There are broadly two types of business storage: stock and archives. With the growth of imported products and internet sales, there has been a new market evolving for storing stock.

"This, together with the growing legal requirements to archive original documents, has created an increase in storage needs."

At Kent Space, for example, businesses can store documents and archive files in a small locker or choose the area they need. Units can be racked out and specialist archive boxes are available for filing documents.

Archive storage can be used by firms such as solicitors, accountants, surveyors, dentists, opticians and healthcare services, and also outfits like local authorities and design and marketing agencies.

Ms Knowles said: "Clients can come and go as needed and they have a business centre on site. Desk space can be arranged to sort out files and they have access to photocopying, faxing, postage and courier services, as well as meeting rooms."

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ANYONE who has been to a business breakfast meeting at the Fayreness Hotel in Kingsgate, with its stunning views across the wide open sea, knows that it's a great start to the day.

Owner the Thorley Taverns Group in fact operates three top class hotels and one large function venue on the South East coast. The three hotels – the Fayreness, the Oak Hotel at Ramsgate and the Pegwell Bay Hotel – all have the amazing backdrop of the English Channel and are surrounded by some of the best beaches in the country.

They offer excellent function rooms and facilities to cater for all events, including business meetings and conferences. At the Fayreness, there are 29 rooms, two function rooms and a separate lounge bar. The Oak Hotel has 34 rooms, a café bar, lounge bar, Atlantis seafood restaurant and the Tiffany function suite. The Pegwell Bay Hotel has 42 rooms, separate traditional pub, and two large function rooms, one with a terrace overlooking the bay. The hotels are also becoming more popular for wedding parties because they can offer a function venue, accommodation and stunning locations for photographs. Collectively, the group provides 100 bedrooms.

The large function venue, the Broadstairs Pavilion, pictured, is right on the golden sands of Viking Bay and the views from the veranda are breathtaking.

The group is proud to be able to offer tailor-made function packages to customers and businesses from all over the country in such amazing surroundings.

Shaun Goode, of brewers Scottish & Newcastle, said: "We hold our regional sales meeting at the Pavilion every July and the venue never fails to wow the team.

"After conferences in the large hall, we have had barbecues on the veranda in glorious sunshine and even a beach volleyball competition on the sands in front of the venue. All of this is organised in-house, all we had to do was book the date."

Giving you a flying start

AV8 Helicopters operates from a purpose-built hangar at Rochester Airport in the vibrant, exciting centre of the Thames Gateway project.

Client feedback says its team offers a first-class, efficient and professional business charter service. There are many advantages in chartering a helicopter for business. For a start, you can control your schedule and also take-off and land in places you never thought possible.

Helicopter flying removes restrictions incurred when flying with scheduled airlines and takes away uncertainty that comes with road and rail travel.

It is a fantastic and exciting way to attend important business affairs countrywide, on time, and is, of course, free of traffic problems.

AV8 also recognises that not all business is carried out within the confines of an office and appreciates the importance of corporate hospitality in today's business environment.

A helicopter could provide a marketing and promotional tool that combines glamour with the versatility of a chauffeur-driven car.

Surprisingly, this mode of transport is not that costly and is free from the stress of busy roads, overcrowded rail networks and airport check-in times.

The versatility of helicopters means that whether you wish to fly clients to a sporting event or to a hotel for lunch, AV8 can tailor a package to suit your requirements.

It will even fix your company logo to the helicopter, making it appear that it is your machine, adding further to your professional corporate image.

You may, for example, wish to organise a corporate charter for a business meeting or as a reward to staff for a job well done.

Each charter will be tailor-made to your wishes and AV8 will help plan the right itinerary for you.

Don't forget you can also go for an AV8 yacht charter. There's the River Medway cruise, with one day, half day or one day extended range options.

The River Thames cruise is a luxury two-day trip to London, with overnight mooring at St Katharine Docks, where accommodation is at the Guoman Tower Hotel.

There's also a River Orwell east coast cruise for one or two days, and faraway shores trips to Nieuwpoort in Belgium, the French coast or the Channel Islands.

Specials this year include Cowes week on the Solent, from August 2-9.

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Expansion will satisfy demand

KINGS Hill Conference and Training Centre has increased the number of rooms available for meetings and courses to meet growing demand.

Fifteen rooms of varying sizes can now be booked at the purpose-built centre at Kings Hill, near West Malling.

These include a 140-seat conference suite with dais and lectern, and a computer training suite with 18 wireless networked PCs available alongside the presentation PC.

Diane Barnett has headed the seven-strong conference venue team, on behalf of the University of Greenwich, for six years.

She said: "There is increasing demand in Kent from businesses and public sector organisations for modern conference, seminar and training facilities, within easy reach of London and the coast, via the M20, and major towns such as Maidstone, Tunbridge Wells and Sevenoaks.

"We are maximising our resources to meet clients' needs. We have made more rooms, and combinations of rooms, available for groups ranging from 12 to 140 people and we have expanded our exhibition and display areas."

The centre has full catering services, an on-site technician and a team of conference support advisers available for both day and evening events as well as on-site parking for 120 cars and free public parking close by.

In Anne Boleyn's footsteps

HEVER Castle is a historic venue dating as far back as 1270. Set in more than 600 acres, including a 35-acre lake, it is most famous for being the childhood home of Anne Boleyn, one of Henry VIII's ill-fated wives.

The castle and the adjoining Astor Wing are available all year round on an exclusive-use basis for conferences, day meetings and company away-days.

Taking just one group at any one time guarantees privacy and seclusion to ensure any meeting or event is a success. It also means staff can concentrate fully on guests to ensure the highest standards of comfort, service and cuisine.

There are three superb interconnecting meeting rooms, the Tudor Suite, all of which have lots of natural light, plus smaller syndicate rooms.

Wi-fi internet access is available throughout the Astor Wing, giving delegates the freedom to work at broadband speeds. The Astor Wing also offers 21 bedrooms, all designed to a very high standard, with en suite facilities.

A range of exciting outdoor team-building activities can be organised, from laser shooting, archery and duck herding, through to motorised sports such as quad-biking, apache cars, digger driving and reverse-steer Land Rover driving. All outdoor activities are held

on the Hever Castle Estate and we work closely with an outdoor management company which has all the equipment, staff and expertise to make it a fun and memorable experience. There are four acres of formal gardens, and other facilities available to delegates at the Astor Wing include an outdoor heated swimming pool, tennis court, croquet lawn and billiard room.

The award-winning Hever Castle Golf Club is also available for use by guests. The 18-hole championship course, known as the Kings & Queens, boasts an array of stunning holes to test even the most accomplished golfer, but the beautiful surroundings make playing the course a real pleasure. There are packages that can be tailored to suit everyone. The Castle Dining Hall and Inner Hall are both available to hire when closed to the public.

Both rooms are steeped in history and have been superbly restored with fine wood panelling and a carved minstrels' gallery.

It is possible for guests to arrive at the castle forecourt and enter across the drawbridge, with reception drinks being served in the Inner Hall or Inner Courtyard.

There have been three main periods in the construction of the castle. The oldest part dates to 1270 and consisted of the gatehouse and a walled bailey.

In the early 1500s, the Bullen family bought the castle and added a Tudor house within the walls, and so it became the childhood home of its most famous inhabitant, Anne Boleyn – Henry VIII's second wife. It later passed into the ownership of Henry's fourth wife, Anne of Cleves.

In 1903, William Waldorf Astor invested time, money and imagination in restoring the castle, building the Tudor village and creating the gardens and lake. Since 1983, the castle has been owned by Broadland Properties.

Among its artefacts are two magnificent Books of Hours (prayer books), both signed and inscribed by Anne Boleyn.

The Council Chamber in the 13th century gatehouse contains collections of historic swords, armour, instruments of execution, torture and discipline.

For further information, please contact event co-ordinators Louise Warren or Celine Jorgensen, on 01732 861 800 or email tudor@hevercastle.co.uk.

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A few novel suggestions for growers

By **TONY PATEY**
Business Editor

A KENT scientist has just finished a fact-finding study about the need for fruit growers to diversify in the face of factors ranging from climate change to more competition from imports.

East Malling Research (EMR) scientist Dr Felicidad Fernández has identified a number of novel or minor crops, including hardy kiwis, haskaps, black raspberries and pawpaws, which she says hold interesting possibilities for the UK fruit industry.

EMR communications manager Dr Ursula Twomey said: "In recent years, UK fruit growers have made significant changes in their businesses in response to moves in government policy, increased competition from imports and increased costs driven by factors such as availability and cost of labour, availability of resources like water and so on.

"Despite fantastic growth in the soft-fruit sector in the last 10 years, and signs of recovery in the UK tree-fruit sector due to demand for locally grown produce and a resurgence in the cider and perry industries, diversification has become important.

"Each sector can provide examples of growers who have embraced change and reaped the rewards.

"The UK market is benefiting from increased promotion of and interest in healthy eating. Consumers have become more adventurous with fruit, appreciating a wider choice of produce.

"It is a good time for the UK market to accept novel crops and diversification may provide growers with new opportunities."

Dr Fernández, who completed the study for the Nuffield Farming Scholarships Trust Award, funded by the Worshipful Company of Fruiterers, said the UK's orchard area had diminished from 35,000 hectares in 1986 to 15,000 in 2006. Fruit imports increased substantially during the same period.

FUTURE FRUIT: Novel crops, such as this hardy kiwi, could become a common sight

She said: "The supply chain has responded with increased availability of products, off-season imports as well as an extended UK season due to the use of polytunnels and improved cultivars.

"But there is no time for complacency in this very dynamic market where commoditisation can occur very quickly, bringing profit margins down.

"I started my research with visits to UK fruit growers and nurseries followed by a tour of North America and Serbia, where I visited research institutes, fruit growers, universities and retailers."

She said each fruit highlighted "has unique selling points and any one of them could join blueberries and blackberries as part of mainstream commercial UK production, provided the industry seizes the opportunity and invests in their development".

Fruits such as sea buckthorn, goji, or certain Mediterranean crops like apricots and figs, could have a place in UK production, she said.

EMR has long-standing expertise in ornamental and fruit varieties and now has a small planting of hardy kiwi fruit that will come into crop in 2010.

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Weekend farmer takes long view from Canary Wharf

REGULAR readers may remember our edition of May 18, when we highlighted Julian from the City, who bought some arable land.

He paid a record £10,000 per acre, pipping to the post neighbouring farmer George.

Then Julian asked George – both clients of Tunbridge Wells solicitors Cripps Harries Hall – to run the farm as a contractor.

It was the morning after and Julian looked out from his office on the 40th floor in Canada Square and took a call from George, who wanted to know whether he could order the fertiliser for the top field.

"Can I leave that one to you George?" said Julian.

After the call, he realised that this was what buying the farm and employing George on contract meant.

His tax planning solicitor at Cripps had advised him that he could save more than a million pounds by rolling over the capital gain from the part sale of his City financial boutique into the farmland purchase.

Two years afterwards, it should be an inheritance tax-free asset to hand over to his children.

Being a working farmer at the weekend while operating from Canary Wharf during the week might seem a difficult call, but hundreds of wealthy individuals up and down the country are doing it.

If Julian is to satisfy tax requirements, he must demonstrate that the relationship with George is one of employee in Julian's farming business and that the business risk of crop failure or falling markets is carried by Julian as the working farmer.

One problem area is likely to be the farmhouse which Julian is thinking of extending.

The tax people will have to be convinced not only is it of a character appropriate to the farm, and historically has been the farmhouse, but also that Julian's use is consistent with it being the farmhouse.

Our agriculture and estates team has been working with farmers and landowners for many years.
A number of us are from agricultural backgrounds ourselves, so we understand the concerns of the rural community instinctively as well as professionally. This means that when it comes to advice on any of the aspects of agricultural law - from buying and selling land to managing tenancy disputes you can be sure that you're in safe hands.
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Où sont les bargains, monsieur?

Booze cruises were a big part of British life not so long ago. The trip across the Channel to stock up on beer and cigs was a regular outing for many, especially here in the South East. But with the pound's weakness against the euro, is it so worthwhile now? KOS Media's Your Kent TV presenter **Julie Maddocks** headed to Calais with a shopping list for this Business Supplement special report.

FOR years the lure of the French hypermarkets has been a big one for the British, particularly in Kent, with Europe on our doorstep.

Many shoppers are on a mission to return home with savings in their pockets and arrive well prepared to take advantage of the value France has historically provided.

But the pound has taken a knock against the euro in the last year, with the current exchange rate at about 1.27.

Have sterling's changing fortunes meant changing habits for British shoppers abroad? Can we still make savings across the Channel? Armed with a shopping list and prices from the UK's top four supermarkets, I headed across the water to find out.

Wandering the aisles, you do feel envy at the sheer variety on offer in the Calais Carrefour. It can't fail to impress.

Fresh produce bursts off the counters in such variety that the only complaint can be that there's just too much to choose from.

TROLLEY GOOD SHOW: Julie Maddocks at the Carrefour hypermarket in Calais

On initial inspection, prices didn't seem to hold up as favourably as I'd hoped. Beer and wine were obvious winners, but the traditional favourites of olive oil and croissants appeared to be comparable to my local Tesco.

Undeterred, I stuck to my list and filled the trolley as instructed, on the way meeting other Brits determined to make their visit to France cost effective. One group of shoppers from Hertfordshire were convinced their trip was worthwhile. They said the difference in prices would see them much better off at the checkout, but were also relying on a 22 per cent saving at the petrol pump.

I checked out with a modest trolley-load totalling 63.21 euros (£50.49), still not convinced I'd achieved the bargain hunt I'd hoped for. I inspected my list from home, adding up the items to see how they would compare.

To my surprise, the British bill came to £72.84, which meant an impressive saving of £22.35 in France on a relatively small shop.

The biggest bargains were beer, wine and, surprisingly, washing powder.

Next stop was the petrol station, where the French have also seen a big jump in prices. A litre cost 1.46 euros, compared with £1.17 (this week) at home – so nothing to be gained there.

Taking into account the cost of my P&O ferry crossing, there are still savings to be made.

Just keep your fingers crossed that the pound doesn't dip too much further.

• ***See how Julie got on by logging on to Business TV at www.kentnews.co.uk. Talking Business returns next week.***

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RT: Rate type **R%:** Rate percentage **L:** Loan **U:** Until **OD:** Other details

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OD: £999 ARRANGEMENT

BRISTOL & WEST
RT: FIXED **R%:** 6.29% **L:** 75% **U:** 31/07/2011
OD: £1,000 ARRANGEMENT

FIRST TRUST BANK
RT: FIXED **R%:** 6.34% **L:** 80% **U:** 30/11/2011
OD: £899 ARRANGEMENT

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RT: FIXED **R%:** 6.35% **L:** 75% **U:** 01/10/2013
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OTHER

BEACON HOMELOANS
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RT: TRACKER **R%:** 5.89% **L:** 75% **U:** 2 YEARS
OD: £2,000 ARRANGEMENT

ABBEY
RT: TRACKER **R%:** 5.972% **L:** 75%
U: 2 YEARS **OD:** £999 ARRANGEMENT

DARLINGTON
RT: DISCOUNTED **R%:** 5.99% **L:** 90%
U: 30/06/2010 **OD:** £599 ARRANGEMENT

• THESE RATES CANNOT BE GUARANTEED AND ARE CORRECT AT THE TIME OF GOING TO PRESS

A high Watermark

THE first phase of Highross and Cantium Developments' 18-acre Watermark scheme is now complete and on the market.

Conqueror Court comprises 13 self-contained office buildings constructed to a Grade A standard. Each energy-efficient building provides comfort cooling and heating, full-access raised floors and dedicated parking.

The entire scheme has been granted planning consent and delivery can be achieved quickly as the site has been fully enabled. Letting agent Simon Fitch, of Atisreal, said: "The location and quality will appeal to a wide range of corporate occupiers, both regional and international."

Negotiations are also being held with an international hotel operator to develop one phase of the scheme with a 120-bed business class hotel that would include food, drink, leisure and conference facilities.

Watermark is accessible via Junction 5 of the M2, close to Sittingbourne. As part of the ongoing regeneration in Kent and within the Thames Gateway, the development will benefit from the growth of the area as a business destination with easy links to London, the rest of the UK and abroad.

Commercial specialist Jonathan Creek, of Harrisons Chartered Surveyors, said: "Businesses looking for this level of quality office space expect to pay between £20-24per sq ft in locations such Maidstone, Kings Hill and Dartford. Locating to Watermark at £16.75 per sq ft on a rental basis and £225 per sq ft freehold brings significant financial savings."

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LV=	£16.57	BUPA	£18.74	SCOTTISH PROVIDENT	£13.07	SCOTTISH EQUITABLE	£15.16
LEGAL & GENERAL	£16.65	SCOTTISH PROVIDENT	£18.81	BUPA	£13.37	LEGAL & GENERAL	£15.45
SCOTTISH EQUITABLE	£16.77	LV=	£18.82	BRIGHT GREY	£13.51	BUPA	£16.22
BUPA	£16.97	LEGAL & GENERAL	£19.20	LEGAL & GENERAL	£13.65	LV=	£16.44
BRIGHT GREY	£18.19	BRIGHT GREY	£21.56	LV=	£14.14	BRIGHT GREY	£17.28

By **LIZ RULE**
Pharon Independent Financial Advisers Ltd

Africa emerges from the gloom

MANY investors are gloomy about the prospects for the UK and other established economies due to inflation, tumbling property prices and talk of recession.

One area investors have been thinking about is emerging economies and many investment houses have launched African investment funds.

Africa's economic growth rates have exceeded those of the developed world over the last few years. Many African countries have experienced growth in excess of seven per cent and in Angola there was growth of 20 per cent in 2007.

Much of the growth can be attributed to relative political stability. More than 60 per cent of African countries are now functioning democracies, compared with 12 per cent in the late 1980s.

Commodities and the rising price of fuels and raw materials have certainly contributed to recent growth. For example, Zambia has copper and agricultural businesses, and Angola has oil, but there are many other areas of growth to be considered, including the emergence and rise of financial markets.

Considering investing in African funds is not for the faint-hearted and I would suggest that to invest in a single geographical area can only be done sensibly if it is a small part of your portfolio, but there are merits.

African performance is not linked to that of the major western economies, so when they say America sneezes and the world catches cold, Africa might not.

African fortunes will, however, depend significantly on investment from the Middle East and Chinese consumption.

As always, if you wish to consider countries that have not been traditionally used by mainstream investors, you should be getting advice on what funds to choose or getting an investment manager to run a portfolio of emerging economies on your behalf. As always, remember that the value of an investment can fall as well as rise.

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By TOM HOWARD
tom.howard@kosmedia.co.uk

Pictures: NICK DUNGAN

First win puts Camier back on track after horror smash

TAKING the chequered flag at Snetterton for the first time in his British Superbike career last weekend has lifted a weight off Leon Camier's shoulders.

The Ashford rider moved to second in the British Superbike standings after holding off team-mate Shane Byrne to take his maiden win in the first race at Snetterton.

It is only the 21-year-old's second season in the series after making his debut last year. Camier admitted he was both shocked and relieved to climb to the top step of the podium.

Camier said: "It was spot on to clinch my first win. It was more relief than anything though when I crossed the line. It is easy to lose your head if you keep thinking about getting that first win, but hopefully fingers crossed I can get more under my belt.

"People have been talking about how close I was getting to wins and it is a weight off my shoulders now I have secured a victory.

"This season we have been getting quicker and quicker and I am so happy that we have finally got to the top step of the podium.

"Going into the race with the weight penalty, I really didn't think we could win and a place on the podium was the best result we were looking for."

Impressive

The Airwaves Ducati rider was only a lap away from recording a double victory in difficult conditions in the second race at the Norfolk circuit, but an impressive performance from Byrne saw him power through the field leaving Camier to settle for second place.

He said: "I was so close to making it a double victory, which is a bit annoying, but I had an electrical problem which forced my traction control to disable. Once I saw Shane in my mirrors I knew he would have the pace to get past me and I was just happy to finish."

DELIGHT: Leon Camier leads team-mate Shane Byrne at Snetterton (top), and after his maiden British Superbike victory

Last year Camier began his debut season with a flurry of impressive results, including a podium finish in his first-ever race.

However, an horrific crash at Cadwell Park saw him end the season in hospital after breaking his leg and pelvis, which made his recovery and return of form all the more pleasing.

He added: "The win more than makes up for the time I was out injured. Last year we had many strong outings and were very close before my injury cut the season short.

"It was a long, hard and sometimes very boring time trying to regain my fitness.

"I have so many people to thank, like my physio, doctors, family and Casey Stoner [Moto GP champion], who have helped me a great deal to get back racing again."

Conway aims for double

REPEAT: Mike Conway hopes to build on Monaco win at Magny Cours

MIKE Conway will be looking to continue his winning form as he heads to Magny Cours in France for round four of the GP2 Championship.

The Sevenoaks single-seater racer produced one of the best performances of his career in the last round on the streets of Monaco with a lights-to-flag victory. The win was Conway's second points finish of the season which has propelled him into the top 10 ahead of the French round of the championship.

The Trident Racing driver will be hoping not to repeat last year's performance at the Magny Cours circuit, where he retired from the first race and could only manage a ninth place finish in race two.

The Magny Cours track is a fast-flowing circuit compared to the tight and twisty streets of Monaco and will provide a stern test for all the drivers.

On Sunday, it could be Conway's last ever race at the circuit as the GP2 organisers have decided to no longer include the famous French circuit on the race calendar for next season.

Toby's 250cc target

SUPERBIKE rider Toby Markham (pictured) will take on the world's best 250cc riders after receiving a wild card for the British round of the Moto GP series at Donington Park this weekend.

The Ashford rider, who races for Canterbury-based team BM Groundworks Yamaha, will race in front of a crowd of more than 100,000 at the Derbyshire circuit.

Markham will get to mix with some of the sport's most famous riders, including Valentino Rossi and British star James Toseland.

The 20-year-old will be hoping to improve on his 17th place last year, but knows his Yamaha machine will fall short of the works teams.

Markham said: "I'm delighted with the opportunity to ride for the second time at my home Grand Prix. Last year, in monsoon-like conditions, many of the GP regular riders crashed out. I was able to finish. I don't mind the wet, but I hope conditions stay dry this year."

Despite having less power, Markham is looking forward to the race and will be pushing his machine to the limit.

He added: "Of course our private bikes have a serious power deficiency in comparison to the big-budget factory teams, but I'm really excited and will be giving it my all."

Top birthday for Tommy

MOTOCROSS ace Tommy Searle is the new leader of the World MX2 Championship after recording his first clean sweep at the French Grand Prix last weekend.

The 19-year-old, from Goudhurst, celebrated his birthday last Friday and the celebrations continued into the weekend after he won both races. Searle's stunning performance saw him open up a four-point lead in the race for the title.

In the first race, Searle battled with fellow Brit Shaun Simpson for the lead before powering past him on lap four, where he stayed for the rest of the race.

Searle led at the start of the second race but on lap seven, reigning champion Antonio Cairoli reeled the Kent rider in. However, the Italian tried to pass Searle but crashed out, gifting the double victory to Searle.

He said: "I came hoping for points but never thought I would end up with a 20-point lead. It's a great birthday present for me. This is the first time I have had a double win. It gives me confidence and makes me mentally strong for the next round at Germany as it's a track I like."

FLYING HIGH: Tommy Searle

Stimson still unsure over Maher signing

By DAVID PRITCHARD

GILLINGHAM transfer target Kevin Maher again trained with the squad this week, but boss Mark Stimson admits the midfielder could still be tempted elsewhere.

The 31-year-old spent two months on loan at Priestfield last season. Gills' hopes of signing him were raised when he trained with the club in May just after being released from Southend United.

Stimson told Kent on Sunday he was still keen on signing Maher but acknowledged the club's relegation to League Two could be a problem.

He said: "He would be a great addition for us because he has the quality you look for in a team.

"He has come in to see what we're doing and hopefully now I will speak to the chairman and maybe get something down that might tempt Kevin to come and join us.

Spearhead

"If we had stayed in League One I think Kevin would have probably signed already but he rightly wants to play at the highest level and that's probably the stumbling block at the moment."

Stimson's main aim for the summer transfer market remains a striker with physical presence to spearhead the club's promotion hopes in League Two.

Bristol Rovers' Richard Walker became the latest forward to be linked to the club this week. The 30-year-old, whose career began at Aston Villa, has a decent goal-scoring record and would fit the bill.

The Gills boss admitted he was interested in Walker but he was focused on closing in on his top target.

He said: "[Walker] is on the list but there are a couple of other ones maybe ahead of him, so we will just have to wait and see.

Pictures: IGOR KUPCO

BACK TO WORK: Some Gills players are already working out before pre-season training begins in a fortnight. Manager Mark Stimson (inset) is still waiting on a final decision over Kevin Maher

"We are just waiting for a phone call [from his main target] to say yes they accept the deal or no they don't, it's that close.

"The player is out of contract, we've offered him a contract, he's been offered a contract from a couple of other clubs, so we'll have to wait and see what decision he makes."

In the other direction, three out-of-favour players are close to ending their stays at Priestfield.

Two clubs are interested in striker Delroy Facey, who scored three goals in 35 appearances last season.

The 29-year-old ended the season on loan at Wycombe Wanderers and is reportedly keen to move on after falling down the Gills pecking order.

Stimson also revealed the club are close to agreeing a deal with Aaron Brown and Efe Sodje to cancel their contracts.

All three were officially listed as available for loan or transfer earlier this month and their departure would lighten the wage bill, making way for new signings.

Stimson said: "It's about balance and hopefully a couple of ours will go after having discussions with their agents and the chairman."

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Picture: KEITH SLATER

WE'RE STAYING PUT: Mark Jones

Gills chief moves to dispel ground switch rumours

GILLINGHAM chief executive Mark Jones has dismissed suggestions the club are considering a groundshare with Southend United.

When the league fixtures were announced earlier this week, the two clubs' games mirrored each other throughout the season, with Gills playing away when the Shrimpers were at home and vice versa.

But Jones rubbished internet rumours the club was planning to leave Priestfield in favour of Roots Hall.

He said: "There's no truth in that whatsoever. We are in full swing to find ourselves a new location in Kent and we are not in conversation with anyone else."

Jones was appointed in April to allow chairman Paul Scally to focus more of his time on raising investment for a new stadium. Relocation is seen as crucial to the club's long-term aspirations, with Scally first unveiling plans for a 20,000-seater stadium four years ago.

The original proposed site at Temple Marsh, near Strood, was rejected due to the high cost of improving transport links in the area.

With a lack of suitable sites in Medway, the club have considered other locations in Kent.

Gillingham Football Club plc no longer owns Priestfield after shareholders agreed to sell the ground to Priestfield Developments Limited – a company owned by Scally – last December, reducing its £12 million debts by 75 per cent.

Under the terms of the deal, the club have a secure tender. The ground cannot be sold or developed as long as the club need it and until an alternative is built.

Can Ojo top debut?

RUGBY: After scoring two tries on his England debut against New Zealand last week, Topsy Ojo is set to start in the second Test today at Christchurch.

The former Dartford Grammar schoolboy was one of the positives from the 37-20 defeat to the All Blacks in Auckland.

The London Irish winger could be joined by Sevenoaks born, and Leicester Tigers winger, Tom Varndell, who would collect his third England cap.

Bromley-born prop forward Andrew Sheridan will miss the game through injury after receiving a cut to his eye in the first Test.

The game will kick-off at 8.35am.

Clewlow sweating on Olympic call-up

Picture: ADY KERRY

DECISION: Mel Clewlow is cautiously optimistic about a GB pick

MEL Clewlow will find out next week if she has made it into the Great Britain women's hockey squad for the Beijing Olympics.

The Canterbury star was in the team the last time they qualified, in Sydney eight years ago.

The 32-year-old is expected to be among former Canterbury coach Danny Kerry's 16-strong final squad, but she admits to being nervous before the announcement.

Clewlow told Kent on Sunday: "You can get nervy around selection but I think Danny knows what he's doing and we have faith in him.

"It's coming together and I'm optimistic. All through my career I have never taken my selection for granted and this is one of the best squads I have been involved with.

"Injuries can still play a part and until you go to that opening ceremony, there's always that nagging feeling that something might go wrong."

The team are outsiders for an Olympic medal but are beginning to show some good form.

Last weekend, with Clewlow in the side, they lifted the Setanta Trophy, beating reigning Olympic and European champions Germany 4-1 in the final.

The next time the teams meet will be in the opening pool match in Beijing, but Clewlow does not believe last Sunday's victory will give Britain a psychological edge in August.

She said: "We are being realistic and think they held things back like us. Ultimately it's not about this result, it's about what happens when we meet them in Beijing."

Next week the team step up their preparations with a four-team tournament in the Netherlands.

They will compete in a round-robin tournament against the hosts, who are ranked number one in the world, South Africa and India.

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Pictures: ADY KERRY

STAYING PUT: Ebbsfleet duo Liam Daish (left) and Alan Kimble

'We are not going to Cambridge – we've unfinished business at Fleet'

EBBSFLEET United boss Liam Daish and assistant Alan Kimble have denied they have had any contact with Cambridge United over the vacant manager's post.

The management duo, who both played for Cambridge, are top of the list for United fans but both Daish and Kimble told Kent on Sunday they had not heard from their former club and were happy at the Fleet.

Daish said: "I have not had any contact from Cambridge United and I do not want to make any further comments about the vacant job at the club."

New Ebbsfleet chairman John Moules also confirmed the club have not been officially approached and he fully expects the pair to remain at Stonebridge Road.

He said: "As a club I can assure you that Cambridge United have not been in contact in regards to Liam Daish's availability."

Kimble, the former Wimbledon defender, is flattered to be linked with the job, but believes both he and Daish have unfinished business with Ebbsfleet.

Kimble said: "We had no contact from Cambridge, but because we are former players at the club we are always going to be linked with the manager's position from time to time. I am flattered but me and Liam feel we have a job to do at Ebbsfleet."

Daish had made 138 league starts for Cambridge from 1988-94, while Kimble spent seven years at the club, clocking up more than 350 appearances.

'Wheelchair rugby changed my life'

Now paralysed athlete has eye on Paralympics

By GLENN PEARSON

SPORT has a strange way of picking you up when you least expect it, and for Steve Brown the help came at the lowest point in his life.

The 28-year-old from Sittingbourne suffered a neck injury three years ago that left him paralysed from his chest downwards and with only partial feeling in both hands.

The accident in Germany left him questioning what he was going to do with his life and forced him to re-learn basic movements needed for day-to-day living such as cooking and washing.

After being transferred to Stoke Mandeville – the centre of wheelchair sport – he checked out a local sports centre where there was a game of wheelchair rugby going on.

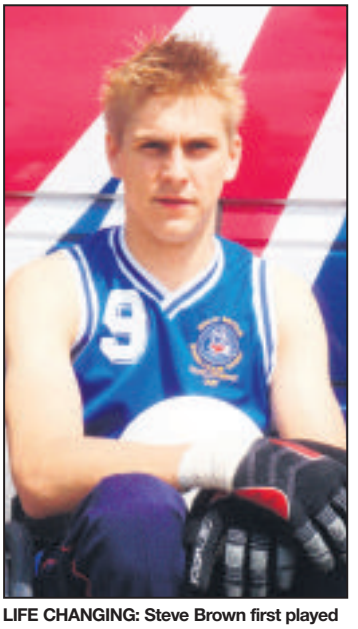
Opportunity

Being a sport enthusiast having enjoyed rugby, football and athletics while at Danley Middle School in Sheppey and Borden Grammar in Sittingbourne, he saw wheelchair rugby as an opportunity to claim back an important part of his life.

However, what started out as "a bit of a laugh" soon became a serious part of his new life after he joined the London Wheelchair Rugby Club.

"I played for about a year and didn't take it too seriously," he said. "It wasn't until I played in the National Wheelchair Rugby League against all the top teams in Britain that I began to take it more seriously.

"It gives me something to get up for, a purpose and a sense of direction. Wheelchair rugby is fun and I really enjoy it, but it isn't a laugh anymore – it is more of a lifestyle change."



LIFE CHANGING: Steve Brown first played wheelchair rugby for fun, but is now aiming to qualify for the London 2012 Paralympics

He now trains six days a week at the gym and in the swimming pool, and his hard work paid off as his team became champions of Europe two years in a row.

It was playing in what would be termed as the 'Champions League' that helped change his life. Great Britain's coach, Joe Sores, liked what he saw in Brown and offered him a trial.

"I was quite surprised to be honest because I had only been playing for about eight months at the time," he said. "I made it into the squad and was part of the team that went to the European Championship at the beginning of 2008 and as we made it to the final, we gained entry to the Olympics in Beijing."

Brown narrowly missed out on a place in this year's Olympics by just one place. He is ranked 13th in Britain while the GB squad going to Beijing consists of 12 players.

However, the 28-year-old has the London 2012 Olympic Games in his mind and believes he can achieve his dream.

He said: "When I first suffered the injury I was in a bad way and things were looking quite grim. I had to re-learn pretty simple things which was hard, but wheelchair rugby has helped me come out the other side.

"When I left that hospital in Germany I could never have imagined where I am now and the fact I am battling for a place at the London 2012 Games. It has completely changed my life."

Wheelchair rugby is an expensive sport. The wheelchairs cost £5,000 each and Brown says he spends £12,000 a year on equipment and travelling.

He is hoping to start a team in Kent as seven players in the London side are from the county and they have no base in the area.

• ***Steve Brown is looking for a sports centre willing to accommodate a wheelchair rugby team. Call him on 07846 754200.***

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Picture: CHRIS WALKER

YOUNG LEARNERS: Go karting scheme could uncover racing stars of the future

Surtees backing go kart initiative

FORMULA One stars will descend on Buckmore Park tomorrow to launch a nationwide campaign to give children a chance to try karting.

Under the Motor Sport Association's 'Lets Go Karting' initiative, youngsters aged 8-16 will be able to get behind the wheel for just £5 in special sessions.

Former world champion John Surtees, Bromley's McLaren test driver Gary Paffett and Ross Brawn – who was Michael Schumacher's technical director at Ferrari – will be among the VIPs at the launch.

Karting is the first stop for most people keen on motorsport, with McLaren's Lewis Hamilton the latest in a long line of karters to reach Formula One.

Surtees, who is the only man to win a world championship on four and two wheels, is backing the campaign, which will be based around 16 tracks across the UK.

He said: "Karting is an integral part of motorsport as it is the traditional entry point into racing. Britain has an excellent heritage in karting but it has always been a relatively expensive sport, which means some people have been excluded.

"Lewis Hamilton's success has caused a huge surge of interest in the sport, so it's wonderful to be able to help launch Let's Go Karting, which will open up the thrill and joy of karting to thousands more youngsters."

Both Hamilton and Jenson Button raced on the 1200-metre track near Chatham at the start of their careers.

The launch is on Monday at the Kent circuit from 1pm.

Norton move up

NORTON Sports have officially been promoted to the Kent League after having been unanimously voted in by Premier Division clubs.

At the league's annual general meeting this week, all the clubs voted in favour of electing Ben Taylor's side to the Premier Division.

The Swale club (pictured) will be ground sharing with Herne Bay at Winch's Field for the coming season as they look into the possibility of making improvements to the Norton Sports Ground.

Chairman Colin Page said: "We are delighted and relieved as we finally know what we will be doing next season.

"For the players it is the most important thing because it now gives them a focus after putting all the effort in last year.

"Winning the league is good, but the reward of being promoted is what they are really after.

"For a bunch of guys who live locally and play in the area, it's a big achievement."

Cricket at Canterbury

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FOOTBALL
Stimson still awaiting Maher decision **78**

KP IS SWITCHED ON

Pietersen's trick shot will inspire Twenty20 generation, says coach

By **GLENN PEARSON**

KENT coach Graham Ford has backed Kevin Pietersen's 'switch hit' shot and has warned the Twenty20 effect will provide even more innovative shots in the future.

After England star Pietersen played the shot in a One-Day International against New Zealand at Chester-le-Street last Sunday, its legality became a much-debated point.

Former West Indies fast bowler Michael Holding was incensed the shot was deemed legal by the MCC as it essentially sees a batsmen switch between batting right-handed to left-handed – without informing either bowler or umpire.

Modern

He said: "What you have to remember is that the captain and the bowler set the field. There are field restrictions that they have to adhere to.

"When you have set your field for a right-hander or a left-hander and then by the time you have bowled your delivery, the batsman has changed hands, well I think that is a bit unfair on the bowler and the fielding team."

However, Kent's South African coach gave his backing to the use of the shot. He feels it is part of the modern game and would encourage his players to attempt it.

He said: "I think players have used that shot before and no-one has thought about complaining about it before. In my eyes the bowlers bowl and it's us up to the batters to get the ball away however they choose, as long as it is in the rules of the game.

"It is a fantastic shot and is part and parcel of this exciting and wonderful product that is the Twenty20 competition.

"There will be more innovation from both batsmen and bowlers and isn't that great? It is all about changing and moving the game forward and I would support any of our players who went for the shot."

The Kent Spitfires are in the middle of a hectic schedule that will see have seen them play 10 Twenty20 games in 17 days. With the added incentive of a chance of competing in the inaugural Champions League for £2.5 million prize money, Ford has seen a change in approach from other counties.

He said: "From our point of view we have not really thought about it. We are in such a tough pool where every game is like a cup final at the moment. For us and the players, the Champions League is not really in our minds at all as we prepare for games.

"In some other clubs it is part of their long-term strategy. Clubs like Durham have brought in Shaun Pollock specifically for this Twenty20 campaign.

"Some counties are putting more emphasis on Twenty20 than in the past because of the carrot dangling at the end of it, which is of course the Champions League. We are not really in a position to do that, so it doesn't affect us."

Picture: ADY KERRY

Picture: GETTY IMAGES

SWITCH HITTERS: Kevin Pietersen changes hands (right) and (above) Joe Denly attempts the reverse sweep for Kent

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Venus looks a trip too far for Naomi

Picture: GETTY IMAGES

OUT OF THIS WORLD: How Naomi Cavaday will have to play to beat reigning Wimbledon champion Venus Williams

NAOMI Cavaday will face the biggest game of her fledgling career when she steps out on centre court at Wimbledon against defending champion Venus Williams on Tuesday.

The first-round draw gives the 19-year-old from Sidcup the chance to create one the biggest shocks in SW19 history against the four-time champion.

On paper it is a mis-match, but Cavaday has experience of taking on a top-ranked player on the hallowed grass courts, after coming within a whisker of a sensational victory last year.

The teenager was drawn against 1997 champion Martina Hingis on court two. After taking the first set she forced two match points in the second before eventually slipping to defeat.

Tuesday's match will be even bigger, in front of 13,800 fans at centre court, arguably the grandest venue in the game.

Women's tennis in Britain is enjoying a revival of sorts, with five players inside the top 200.

Cavaday is the lowest of those at 199, but has shown signs of form on the grass. Earlier this month she beat the experienced Jill Craybas in straight sets at the DFS Classic in Birmingham.

If she could record a first-ever win in three attempts at Wimbledon it would propel Cavaday way above her previous highest ranking of 183.

But Williams will provide a formidable opponent. The seventh seed has won 36 career singles titles, including six grand slam victories and a gold medal at the Sydney Olympics in 2000.